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STILL IN THE DARK OVER PLEASURAMA

WHAT'S ON & WATCH
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WIZARD: Meet Phil Heath, owner of the new pinball museum in Ramsgate. Search 'pinball'

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STRIKING ATTRACTION

Get those flipper fingers ready... a new tourist attraction is set to open up in Ramsgate.
The Pinball Parlour will be the country's first dedicated pinball museum and opens later this month. Pinball wizards Peter Heath and Geoff Harvey have been busy putting the finishing touches to the Addington Street museum, formerly the antiques shop Granny's Attic, and are almost ready to start trading.
TURN TO PAGE 3 FOR THE FULL STORY.

■ BY TOM BETTS

COUNCILLORS will meet to discuss the future of the Pleasurama project tomorrow night, behind closed doors.

The press and public will be excluded from the May 7 meeting, at which officers will present a report to the cabinet, because of "commercially confidential" information.

Construction of the Royal Sands development under the town's east cliff is still ongoing but doubt still surrounds its future, twelve years after it was ravaged by fire.

Some parties are starting to question the project's viability – casting doubt on whether a £5million bond to protect the council financial interest has even been paid.

Under the development agreement the firm behind the project were supposed to provide the bond but when Yourthanet asked Thanet council if the firm behind the scheme have paid we were told the information was not available to us.

The development agreement itself is even up for discussion on Thursday.

The planning permission was granted in January 2005 and a subsequent agreement drawn up.

A decision about how to move the whole project forward is due to be taken but some say that the time for that passed a long time ago.

Cllr David Green for East Cliff ward said: "What the meeting will probably mean is that they will ask for more time to sort this all out but where does that leave the development? We are now at crunch point. It's been sitting

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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2 The intriguing discovery of a dice tower at Richborough Roman Fort. Search 'dice' on the community channel



3 Enjoy the work of the Folkestone Art Society's spring exhibition. Search 'Folkestone'

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CHANGE: New Thanet Labour group leader Clive Hart (left) has taken over from Richard Nicholson



Labour group vote in new leader at AGM

■ BY TOM BETTS

THE Labour group on Thanet council has a new leader.

Clive Hart was elected to take on the role during the group's annual general meeting last Thursday.

Cllr Hart, who represents Cliftonville West on the district council, paid tribute to Cllr Richard Nicholson, the man he is replacing.

He said: "Richard has been a consummate leader of the Labour group in Thanet for the past decade and supporting him as deputy leader has been an honour, a privilege and a practical education in local leadership second to none."

Experience

"It is reassuring to know I have a man of his calibre and experience to call on for advice in the future."

Cllr Nicholson said: "I have decided not to stand again as leader of the Labour group this year."

"I have had the privilege of serving as the group leader for 10 years and decided a while ago to take a break from the frontline. During these 10 years I have, with the help of others, achieved what I think are several notable projects for Thanet."

"These include the bringing of the Thanet campus to the area, the inno-

vation centre at Westwood and, of course, Westwood Cross.

"Other policies of note have been the 106 agreement controlling Manston airport operations and the many other regeneration projects devised during my time as leader of the council."

"However, much satisfaction has also come from helping the many local residents, especially in the Newington ward where I now serve."

"I will, of course, still be doing this job for them."

"I will also still be active within council and on the committees on which I serve. I will remain an active member of the Labour group and will give advice whenever it is sought."

Of his new role as leader, Cllr Hart said: "This is a challenging time for the Labour Party, but I am heartened to know from personal experience as a councillor over the past six years that in Thanet all our elected representatives at every level are fully committed to their roles and to the residents they serve."

"The one thing that sets our councillors apart from those of the other political parties is their total commitment to local people and the real issues that affect their daily lives."

"It is an honour and a privilege to lead a group of Thanet councillors so well rooted in their local communities across our island."

Names of backers remain a mystery

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

there as good as empty for years now." He added: "If there is a problem with the developer not being able to find the money for the bond then the agreement should be terminated right away and other options explored. It's an important site and we cannot have any more inactivity."

The company behind the project is SFP Ventures (UK) Ltd, which the council chose to do business with, but the company directors are elusive.

Repeated attempts by this newspaper to contact them have proved unsuccessful.

Mystery

SFP is registered with companies House in the UK, to an address in Essex, but names of the backers remain a mystery.

A Thanet council spokeswoman said: "The information about the people involved with the developers is freely available on a company search."

"The company is registered in this country and, again, that information is freely available on a company search."

If finished, the site will host a 60 roomed hotel, seven shops and one, two and three-bedroomed apartments.

Thanet council has spent 882,753 on the cliff work so far, with highways work also carried out by the developer for an unknown amount of money.

The original Pleasurama leisure complex burnt down in 1997.

Busy bank holiday for lifeboat crews

MARGATE lifeboat crews responded to three urgent calls over the bank holiday weekend.

Last Thursday they were called to Margate harbour by police where a man was threatening to jump off the end of the harbour wall.

They asked for a lifeboat to stand by in case the man jumped.

The inshore lifeboat was launched but he was talked down by officers.

On Friday the same boat was dispatched to Westgate Bay.

A man had got into difficulties after getting separated from his kayak but managed to reach the sea wall, and was brought back to the shore near the Nayland Rock hotel.

On bank holiday Monday afternoon a 12-meter motor cruiser ran aground on the Hook Sands off of Birchington.

The inshore and all-weather lifeboats were launched to investigate.

Crews assisted the two occupants to refloat the vessel on the rising tide.




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Pinball wizard aims to light up interest

EXCLUSIVE

BY TOM BETTS

THE UK'S first pinball museum is set to open in Ramsgate.

Middle fingers will be at the ready when The Pinball Parlour, at No 2 Addington Street, becomes the town's latest tourist attraction.

More than 30 machines from the past and present will buzz and ping their way into action when co-owners and pinball devotees Peter Heath and Geoff Harvey, both 52, fling the doors open to the public.

Peter Heath, king of the high scores, said: "We officially open on Saturday, May 23, in time for summer and hope it will be the start of something special here."

Playable

"As far as we can work out, this is the first museum of its kind in the country, although all the machines here are totally playable and not being kept in glass cases."

The premises has long been a home to Geoff and Peter's business repairing and restoring the machines and for 17 years they have dreamed of opening a museum.

However, when the previous owner left, the pair decided the time was right to turn the place from Granny's Attic antique shop into The Pinball Parlour and bought the place.

Peter said: "When the antiques shop closed, it was a case of buy it for ourselves or leave."

"As it was ideal for what we wanted to do, it



LIT UP: Peter Heath at his new museum, The Pinball Parlour, which has machines dating back to the 1950s

was the logical step to take and we'll carry on with the repairs and restoration work."

With machines dating back from the inception of pinball, through its golden age in the 50s, 60s and 70s, to more current hi-tech machines, flipper-happy fans of the silver ball will be in heaven.

All the machines, some of which are very rare, have been adapted by Geoff and Peter to take Pinball Parlour tokens.

It is not just pinball fans that the pair are aiming to entice through the doors.

Peter said: "We have a lot of space here, so

it's ideal for hiring as a birthday party. We did a trial run for my daughter's 13th birthday party and they had a blast."

The front of the parlour will serve as a small café, with steps leading up to the hall area, which holds the machines.

The Pinball Parlour will also hire out machines to people for special occasions, with Peter promising to drop off and collect the machine of your choice.

• To enquire about hiring the venue or a machine, phone Peter Heath on 07966217295 or email peteheatl123@hotmail.com.

Rock around the dock at harbour family festival

RAMSGATE is set to rock when two days of music and entertainment pull in the crowds this summer – and you can get involved.

In July the Ramsgate Rocks 2009 festival will be held in the picturesque setting of the town's royal harbour.

Organisers are hoping to draw crowds as high as 50,000 people, meaning the event could prove a bumper pay-day for the town's economy.

The Ramsgate Town Partnership is holding the event on Saturday and Sunday, July 4-5. It is free to attend and promises a wealth of activities and entertainment.

On the Saturday, the entertainment will last all day, from 9am to 11pm.

Then on Sunday it will start at the same time and last until 6pm that evening.

Entertainment

A spokeswoman for the event said: "Ramsgate Rocks promises to provide two days of entertainment with appeal to all ages."

"There will be a multitude of attractions, including a funfair, a stage with various live bands and tribute acts, street entertainment, a Continental market and a food-and-drink village, as well as assorted commercial and craft stalls."

The Saturday night will culminate in a firework display over the harbour.

Trade and craft stall-holders can still take out a pitch at the event – call event coordinator Kate Lipington for details on 07939 272810. Alternatively, email her at katie@urbanerrands.co.uk.

The spokeswoman said: "This event is following on from the powerboat and waterski events of previous years but is purely focusing on land-based activities."

In previous years the event has had an attendance of up to 80,000 across the two days.

Supermarket vote to back local charity

SAINSBURY'S in Thanet is looking for a good cause to be their official partner for the year.

Staff at the store are inviting customers and colleagues to nominate a local charity to benefit from the partnership.

Collections will be taken and store associates will support the chosen charity through volunteering.

Residents can nominate a local charity between May 6 and May 26 by filling in a form and submitting it into the 'Local Charity of the Year' voting box at the front of store.

Sainsbury's will then draw up a short list from the submissions.

Representatives from the three shortlisted charities will be asked to visit the store to talk to colleagues about what they do and how the Sainsbury's team could support them.

The Local Charity of the Year will be chosen from the shortlist and announced to customers in June.

Store manager David Holman said: "By supporting a local charity we can give something back to the community. It's important we find a charity that is close to the hearts and minds of our customers and colleagues, so I would encourage everyone to come into the store and vote."

Campaign to liberate US airman's dog tags in time for memorial

THE identity tags of a downed World War Two American airman are still in Thanet and could still be returned to his nearest relatives in time for a ceremony to honour his memory next year.

According to local beachcomber Tony Ovenden, the dog tags of George M Hasner were found on the beach near where the aircraft came down by an acquaintance of his.

He said: "I know who's got the tag, a fellow I know who is also a beachcomber. He showed me them and I've even held them in my hand."

"During the 70s a huge storm smashed the groins at Palm Bay and the sand started to erode and we found a crater where there'd been a huge fire and we started to find all the wreckage such as bullets and bits of aircraft."

He added: "In 1995 part of the crater started to show and I found a lump of aircraft to show an expert. It was at that point I was put in touch with the person who has them. I borrowed it, taking down the name and number of it before giving it back."

"I told the chap he should really

give them back but he kind shrugged his shoulders and that was where it was left. I don't often see him but I may try and track him down."

Lt George Hasner was one of the airmen aboard a LiberatorB24 which crashed into cliffs at Princes Walk, Palm Bay on April 27, 1944.

The details on the tag are 0752488 T43 MR G.P. HASNER, putting his home as 779 Lafond Avenue, St Paul, Minnesota.

Those been involved in commemorating the events of that night in 1944, during which two Liberators came down in Thanet, are appealing for the tag to be handed over.

Cllr Simon Moores, an aviator himself, has taken a keen interest in the story and with mayor of Margate Brian Sullivan arranged a ceremony to remember those who lost their lives that night.

He said: "It would be only right and proper to get the tag back so we can do the right thing with it."

A service was held to honour the airmen's memory last week at the Westgate-on-Sea war memorial, near the site of the second Liberator crash.



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NEWS IN BRIEF

Lotto winner misses out on £1.5m jackpot prize

THE Champagne won't be on ice for one Lotto winner who let a £1.5 million jackpot slip through their fingers.

Bosses at Camelot had appealed for the owner of the ticket – bought in an unnamed outlet in Swale – to come forward, but the six-month deadline to claim the prize has now elapsed, meaning the cash will go to the Lotto's good causes fund.

The winning numbers were 18, 19, 25, 30, 33 and 43 back in November last year.

Ram-raider jailed after DNA found on stolen car

A RAM-raider who targeted cash machines at three village shops in one night has been jailed for six years.

Nelson Hilden, of Gallants Lane, East Farleigh, was arrested in December last year after forensic teams found his DNA on a smashed windscreen of a stolen four-wheel drive vehicle.

The vehicle was one of two used by Hilden and others in ram-raids in Lyminge, Wye and Lenham, on December 12.

Orchid collector tells of his months in captivity

INTREPID orchid hunter Tom Hart Dyke will be speaking at the Gulbenkian Theatre in Canterbury this Friday.

Hart Dyke will be speak about his adventures around the world collecting plants, which included a nine-month spell in captivity at the hands of Colombian guerrillas.

He will also talk about creating the gardens at his family home, Lullingstone Castle, during the talk at 7.30pm on Friday, May 8. Admission is £10.

Report over Icelandic bank cash to be changed

A REPORT accusing Kent County Council of "negligently" investing taxpayers' money in Icelandic banks is to be reworded.

KCC had threatened to sue the Audit Commission for the use of the word in its Risk and Return document, which investigated multi-million deposits by local authorities in Icelandic banks which were lost.

But chief executive Peter Gilroy revealed during the last full council meeting that the document would be amended.

Showbiz life at heart of Paul's book

■ BY NICK AMES

PANTO director Paul Hendy, responsible for many of the county's most successful shows, has raided his showbiz background to find material for his latest novel.

Hendy's celebrity pals have praised his second novel, *Who Killed Simon Peters?*, a black comedy whodunnit concerning the death of a back-stabbing celebrity.

TV personality Christopher Biggins described it as a "hysterical, rip-roaring yarn" while ex-EastEnders Shaun Williamson said it was "a laugh a page and then some".

The story concerns the title character's rise from C-list obscurity to A-list superstardom, before Peters, described as "deluded, self-obsessed and with an ego the size of Coventry" is found dead in suspicious circumstances.

Mr Hendy's first book features the same character. He said: "My earlier work was *Diary of a C-List Celeb*. At the time I was working as a TV presenter and I drew on a lot of the experiences I heard about – not necessarily my own but those of others I met up with.

"Now the character has clawed his way up to

the A list, but has upset so many people with his rampant ego that suspects are hardly thin on the ground when it comes to his death.

"The story also looks at the way the whole celebrity culture has taken off. I mean look at Susan Boyle of *Britain's Got Talent*. A few weeks ago no-one had heard of her. Now she is never out of the papers."

Former BBC Blue Peter presenter Peter Duncan added: "I had to read the book to make sure I got a mention – very funny though."

Other celebrities have jokingly complained they are not mentioned in Mr Hendy's work.

Singer and reality TV star Toyah Wilcox called the book "brilliantly funny", but added: "Why isn't it about me? I think he should have called it *Who killed Toyah Wilcox*."

Mr Hendy, of Eastry, near Sandwich, has directed pantomimes at Canterbury's Marlowe Theatre and Chatham's Central Theatre.

He has also hosted TV shows such as *Don't Try This At Home* and *Wheel of Fortune* – which had run for 20 years until he took it over but it was cancelled after one series.



WRITE IDEA: Paul Hendy has drawn upon his life in showbusiness as research for his latest novel, *Who Killed Simon Peters?*

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Swine flu fears caught on students' video



MEDIA students made a YouTube video quizzing people on their knowledge of swine flu – and were surprised at the level of panic the deadly virus is already causing.

Those involved in the project at Canterbury Christ Church University spoke to students at the Canterbury campus to test how much they knew about the epidemic.

One student said: "I'm concerned that it might actually come in the UK and affect a lot of people and I don't know how prepared the health services are to deal with it."

During the two-minute clip, one campus worker told students: "I'm due to fly to Australia in June so I have got a very long flight – about 20 hours – through Dubai. I'm a little bit concerned about being on a plane, potentially with people with swine flu."

Another student told the group filming that every student had been sent an email from university bosses warning them to stay at home if they suffered flu-like symptoms.

The students' video is available at www.youtube.com/watch?v=s4cUlfwnWHU

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100 years of history filled Isle's skies



■ BY NICK AMES

A SPECTACULAR fly-past in the skies above the Isle of Sheppey marked the centenary of aviation in the Royal Navy, which purchased its first airship in 1909.

Large crowds took advantage of the sunny weather on Friday to watch the breath-taking display put on by aircraft from the Fleet Air Arm.

The anniversary was also commemorated at Eastchurch, where the first four Royal Navy pilots learned to fly in 1911.

Commander Sue Eagles said: "The historical importance of Eastchurch in the early development of Naval aviation is immense."

The fly-past included Harrier GR7 and GR9 jets, Hawk and Falcon aircraft, and a historic Sea Vixen.

Cmdr Eagles said: "Not only were the first four Naval pilots trained at Eastchurch, but the first Naval aircraft were also built there. "Sheppey was the cradle of aviation in this country. The budding Naval aviators found themselves immersed in the wealth of pioneering aeronautical technology and endeavour being built up there."

In 1911, Eastchurch became the first Royal Naval Air Station. In January of the following year, one of the first four Navy pilots took a Shorts aircraft from Eastchurch to Sheerness, flying it from a rudimentary plat-

form on the forward turret of a cruiser, HMS Africa, which was at anchor.

This was the first time an aircraft had taken-off from a ship in Britain.

In May, 1912, the same pilot and aircraft, Lt Charles Samson flying an S.38, took off from a similar platform on another cruiser, HMS Hibernia, while the ship made 15 knots.

The Short brothers moved to Rochester in 1913, but the association with the Navy led to their development of seaplanes and, in turn, flying boats for which the company became famous.

Aircraft designer Richard Fairey began his aviation industry career at Eastchurch in 1911, initially with the Blair Atholl Syndicate and then Shorts in 1913, before setting up his own company in 1915.

Iconic

The Fairey Swordfish remains the iconic Navy aircraft by virtue of its achievements in the Second World War such as attacking German battleships despite its slow speed and light armament.

The Sheppey links survive with Shorts' last aircraft, the Tucano, serving currently as a pilot trainer for the Navy.

With today's Fleet Air Arm largely a rotary-winged force, its helicopters are products of what is now the Agusta Westland Company. The first aircraft built by Westland were twelve Short 184 seaplanes for the Admiralty in 1915.

Fly Navy 100 is the programme of events this year marking the Royal Navy's aviation centenary, the service having placed a contract for its first airship in 1909.

Friday's events also saw a service at the Pioneer Memorial in Eastchurch which was attended by current and former serving members of the Fleet Air Arm, veterans, guests, and residents.

Guest of honour was Admiral Sir Raymond Lygo KCB, Vice Chief of Naval Staff between 1975 and 1978, who took the salute with Rear Admiral Simon Charlier, Chief of Staff Aviation and Rear Admiral Fleet Air Arm, as the fly-past soared overhead.

CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS: The Isle of Sheppey was treated to the sight of (above) Harrier jump jets and (left) a historic Sea Vixen on Friday

Thanks to all your generosity Kent's kids are now better off

CHILDREN from across the county will benefit from thousands of pounds generously donated by KOS Media's army of readers.

The Kent Kids for Christmas appeal allowed people to purchase our sister paper Kent on Sunday for 60p over the festive period, with the profits handed over to charities that help youngsters who face disadvantages such as disabilities and homelessness.

The charities that will benefit from your money this year are Demelza Hospice Care for Children, Martha Trust, the Kentish Retts Angels and The Molly Bubb Fund.

Cash is also being donated to Invicta FM's Help a Kent Child campaign.

The Molly Bubb Fund was



set up following the death last year of four-year-old Molly from Canterbury, who was struck with a rare form of brain cancer called choroid plexus carcinoma.

Her mother Kerry said the £500 donation will go towards researching and raising awareness of the illness so other families do not have to go through what theirs did.

A further £500 has gone to

the Kentish Retts Angels, which is a support group for parents of Rett syndrome sufferers.

Martha Trust provides a home for life for people with profound physical and learning difficulties, and has a residential home and day centre in Deal.

Fundraiser Serita Boxall said of the £1,000 donation: "It's a lot of money and will be a huge help. It's really kind of your readers to have donated in this way."

Demelza House children's hospice will also be receiving £1,000 while £5,000 is being given to Invicta FM's Help a Kent Child Campaign, from which several charities will be hoping to receive a share of the total amount raised.

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WHAT'S ON AT THE WINTER GARDENS

<p>JUNE 2009</p> <p>Wednesday 3rd Keeping Up With The Joans</p> <p>Sunday 7th Central Band of The Royal British Legion</p> <p>Saturday 13th An Audience with Sally Morgan</p> <p>Sunday 14th Ali Campbell in Concert</p> <p>Saturday 14th - Sunday 15th OLIVER - Open Auditions</p> <p>Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st Margate's Big Event</p>	<p>JULY 2009</p> <p>Friday 3rd The TAKE THAT Experience</p> <p>Saturday 4th Anything For Love</p> <p>Thursday 9th - Saturday 11th Children's Showtime 2009</p> <p>Sunday 12th DAPA Graduation Show</p> <p>Thursday 16th The Kooks in Concert</p> <p>Friday 17th Three Degrees plus support</p> <p>Saturday 18th 'Dancing Days'</p> <p>Friday 24th-Sunday 26th Margate Big Sky Jazz Festival</p>	<p>AUGUST 2009</p> <p>Saturday 25th In Dreams</p> <p>featuring music from Roy Orbison</p> <p>Friday 31st The Real Thing</p> <p>SEPTEMBER 2009</p> <p>Saturday 8th Joe Pasquale</p> <p>12th Aug - 11th "Razzmatazz"</p> <p>Girling Productions Summer Show</p> <p>Saturday 15th Michael McIntyre</p> <p>SEPTEMBER 2009</p> <p>Tuesday 1st Paul Potts in Concert</p>
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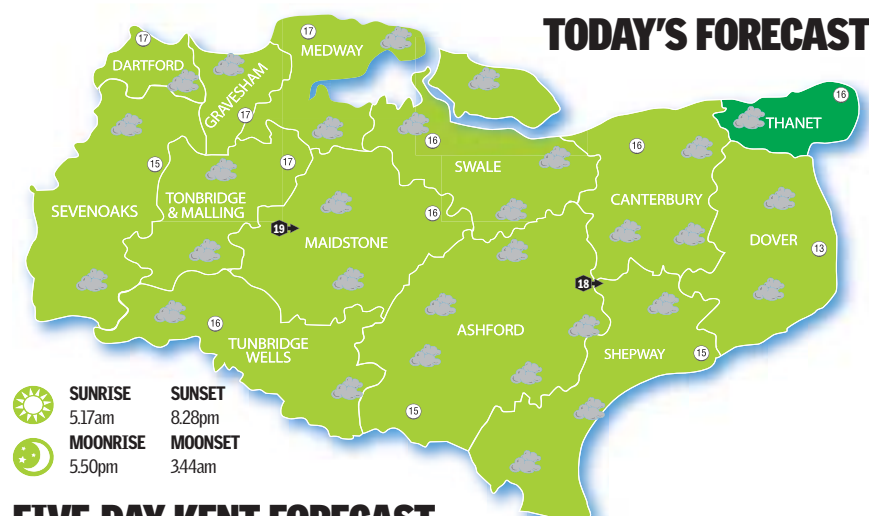
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Chatham	Saturday	1:46pm	5.9m
	Sunday	2:22pm	5.9m
Dover	Saturday	12:03pm	6.4m
	Sunday	12:41pm	6.4m
Dungeness	Saturday	12:00pm	7.4m
	Sunday	12:36pm	7.4m
Ramsgate	Saturday	12:33pm	4.8m
	Sunday	1:11pm	4.9m
Sheerness	Saturday	1:36pm	5.6m
	Sunday	2:12pm	5.6m
Whitstable	Saturday	1:51pm	5.1m
	Sunday	2:25pm	5.0m



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	12°C	Madrid	23°C
Athens	18°C	New York	13°C
Barcelona	22°C	Paris	15°C
Beijing	26°C	Rome	21°C
Bombay	32°C	Sydney	22°C
Cape Town	22°C	Tenerife	20°C
Cardiff	11°C	Tokyo	23°C
Gibraltar	19°C	Vancouver	14°C
Hong Kong	26°C	Warsaw	22°C
Las Palmas	23°C	Wellington	14°C

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	18°C	18°C	17°C	16°C	16°C	Gravesend	17°C	18°C	17°C	16°C	16°C
Canterbury	17°C	16°C	16°C	16°C	16°C	Maidstone	18°C	17°C	17°C	15°C	16°C
Chatham	17°C	16°C	15°C	14°C	14°C	Ramsgate	17°C	16°C	16°C	16°C	16°C
Dartford	17°C	18°C	17°C	16°C	16°C	Rochester	17°C	16°C	15°C	14°C	14°C
Dover	14°C	14°C	14°C	14°C	15°C	Sevenoaks	16°C	16°C	15°C	13°C	14°C
Faversham	17°C	16°C	15°C	14°C	14°C	Sittingbourne	17°C	16°C	15°C	14°C	14°C
Folkestone	14°C	14°C	14°C	14°C	15°C	Tonbridge	16°C	16°C	16°C	14°C	15°C
Gillingham	17°C	16°C	15°C	14°C	14°C	Tun Wells	16°C	16°C	16°C	14°C	15°C

'Why east Kent needs only one large airport'

KENT International Airport at Manston has filed losses of £4 million for the last financial year.

And numbers flying from Thanet are not expected to increase this year, either.

But people campaigning to stop the airport at Lydd being forced to expand have seized on the loss suggesting any air traffic expansion should be at Manston.

A spokesman for Infratil, the Manston's owner, confirmed that the slumping economy had hit airport plans to boost numbers.

The loss figure is the latest registered at Companies House and being used by members of the Lydd Airport Action group who are opposing the expansion of that airport which is on Romney Marsh.

Failed

They are keen to point to KIA's suitability for expansion over their own airport.

Civil Aviation Authority statistics show the Manston operation handled 11,657 passengers in 2008, compared with Lydd's 1,673 passengers.

A spokesman for Lydd Airport Action Group said: "In spite of offering unlimited slot capacity, both airports have failed to attract sufficient commercial airline operators."

The airport, which employs some 90 people, handled 32,624 tonnes of freight in 2008.

LAAG wants to see Manston become Kent's only regional airport because, it says, it "has operational advantages over Lydd".

A leading aviation consultant has carried out an analysis of both airports' operations.

Malcolm Spaven, of Spaven Consulting, concluded that even if Lydd airport's current planning application for the extension of the runway and new terminal were successful, Manston airport would remain operationally superior to Lydd airport due to its longer runway.

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QUESTION & ANSWER

TONY DONEGAN



Q Tell us a little bit about yourself.

A I have lived in Kent for most of my life, as has my family, including my two daughters, Toni and Amber.

I haven't seen much interest in music from my daughters – only from dancing in front of the mirror – whereas I have had an interest in music since I started playing the drums at school. I also play the guitar and banjo.

Q What projects do you have in the pipeline?

A I have always been in a band of some sort and got involved in the Lonnie D Show some time ago.

I have enjoyed music as a sideline, but I intend to launch my own band this year and take it on the road as my girls are older now and the time is right.

Due to the recent successful sell-out concerts in Westgate and Birchington – and others in Kent – we intend to continue increasing bookings due to popular demand. We have a show coming up at the King's Hall in Herne Bay on July 17.

Q How often do you play in the east Kent area?

A Thanet is my home and a lot of our rehearsals and run-throughs find their way into the Thanet pubs and clubs, so quite often.

Q What kind of music do you play?

A Anything with only three chords – my other band play all sorts of covers, from Pink Floyd, Dire Straits and Eric Clapton to The Eagles, the Dooby Brothers, Steely Dan and even some Bob Marley.

Q Do you think you would have been drawn to music so much if it wasn't for your father?

A I think not! It was drums that first interested me and I would not have had that interest from listening to music – it was the close-up backstage moments that sparked my interest in them. Watching concerts from the wings is what did it.

Q Do you ever feel you are living in your father's shadow?

A There have been moments, I must say, although the introduction of Donegan songs into my band was a slow process brought about by popular demand.

When dad died, The Lonnie D Show showcased itself during a tribute concert at the Royal Albert Hall, where I was catapulted to the front of the stage with dad's band behind me and his fans in front.

The Lonnie D Show toured throughout 2004 and 2005, playing many venues that not so long before I had seen dad perform at. This was a very twilight zone experience and, to be honest, a bittersweet one.

Q What is your best memory of your dad?

A That's a hard one. Musically speaking, I would have to say his performance when he played at the Glastonbury Festival. He produced an exceptionally good sound – they were a lively crowd and he gave a slick and consistent performance.

He had done a few concerts on the tour already and although many of them had been great, I think this was the concert in the tour that had it all. Perhaps it was the Glastonbury magic but I am sure dad would agree.

Q Who are your heroes and inspirations?

A Like most boys, their own father, so to me mine was my hero – and especially after he was awarded the MBE in 2000. He is now also my inspiration to produce music that brings pleasure and memories to all those people who bought and listened to his skiffle music.

Q What do you like about Kent and what keeps you here?

A Thanet has always been my home and, no matter where you go in life, home is home. I have no desire to pack my bags and leave Thanet, at least not at the moment. My family are here. That aside, I think Thanet has a lot of potential despite its employment problems. Kent is the Garden of England and Thanet is as beautiful as any other area of Kent.

Q&A

The 40-year-old son of King of Skiffle Lonnie Donegan and an established performer in his own right, spoke to Tom Betts about his life in Kent, following in his father's musical footsteps and what makes him tick

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National Police Dog Trials were held in Kent for the first time. Search 'dog'



Zeebrugge bell rung in memory of Dover Patrol heroes. Search 'bell'



Harlequins host a training session with Medway Dragons. Search 'Dragons'



Sound of Music exhibition at Turner Contemporary Space. Search 'Turner'



Air ambulance launches recycling service at Julie Rose Stadium. Search 'air'

EDITOR'S CHOICE

You can view all these videos and others from around the county with the click of a mouse at...

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Scrap Dartford tolls and let people breathe easy

EXCLUSIVE

BY EMILY HALL

THE Dartford Crossing toll could be suspended after a report found pollution from queuing traffic may be sending people to an early grave.

Councillors have called on the Government to act immediately after a Dartford council working group linked smog from queuing traffic to higher than average levels of lung and heart disease in the area.

Council leader Jeremy Kite has demanded action from the Department for Transport after the report found life expectancy in Dartford was a full year lower than in other areas of Kent.

He has now formally asked the Government to temporarily suspend the £1.50 peak time charge to see if free-flowing traffic reduces the level of dangerous fumes.

"We are asking the Government to realise that at some point they will have to put people's health before making money," he said.

"If people living next to a nuclear power station all fell ill it would be a national scandal, but for some reason the Government seems to think that because a road network is causing our health problems it is something they can ignore.

"For the people here it is a living nightmare. What we have seen is a series of appalling decisions that have increased congestion."

The Dartford Crossing is used by about 150,000 vehicles a day. It is the fourth most congested stretch of road in the UK, making



UNDER A CLOUD: Air pollution near the Dartford Crossing is damaging people's health, local councillors say

it a pollution hotspot.

Councillors formed a working group after NHS figures revealed there was a higher level of emergency hospital admissions for heart and lung problems – including childhood asthma – in those routinely exposed to the choked-up crossing.

The report said: "With the exception of Bean Interchange, all of the other air management areas are in areas with higher concentrations of health problems.

"It is clear that while the actions taken by the borough council will mitigate some of the problems, the likely increase in traffic within the road system and crossing will continue to have a major effect."

A DoT spokesman said they were looking at changes to tolls but would not say whether a suspension was a possibility.

He added: "Studies indicate that without any charge traffic levels would be even higher, leading to even more congestion and seriously worsening pollution.

"After publication of the Dartford Crossing capacity study [in April] we said we would carry out further work to consider whether improving the layout of the toll plazas or applying one-way tolling on the crossing could deliver improvements to the flow of traffic in the short term."

• What do you think? Email your comments to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

The countdown to Invicta's new change of Heart

COMMERICAL radio station Invicta FM has confirmed the date on which it will undergo the biggest change in its 25-year history.

On June 22 it will ditch the Invicta name it has used since its inception in 1984 and become Heart.

The name change, first revealed last year, is part of a strategy by Invicta's owners to enhance its appeal to advertisers and link in with the national Heart network.

Invicta chiefs say listeners will benefit from a boost in production standards and access to bigger stars than ever before.

Critics, however, say the move continues to erode the station's Kent roots and further put at risk programmes produced at Invicta's studios in Whitstable.

While key shows, such as breakfast with James Heming and Gemma Shepherd and the drivetime slot with Neil Kefford will remain, much of the daytime and weekend schedules will be networked shows with the likes of former Neighbours star Jason Donovan and TV presenter Toby Anstis.

Quality

Invicta FM managing director Neil Webster insists the move will only bring positives.

He said: "We are delivering a high quality national product, but delivering it locally.

"From the listeners' point of view, they will get largely the same but lots more investment in things like on-air production – it will sound slicker – the music will be much the same as it is now."

The station says it is in negotiations with a host of events – including the Sugababes and James Morrison shows at the St Lawrence Ground in Canterbury next month – to use as high-profile platforms to promote the name change.

And 'Heart Angels' will be taking to the streets to spread the word, as well as an extensive television and advertising campaign in the week of the change.



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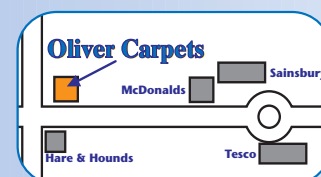
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Savouring spring's flavours

He's one of the rising stars on the celebrity chef scene, close friends with Hell's Kitchen's Marco Pierre White – for whom he worked as head chef for years – and has already come out in support of our Buy Local Produce campaign. Now **Richard Phillips**, who grew up in Rainham and lives near Maidstone, writes for KOS Media in the first of a series of regular features, supporting our campaign and our website, www.foodforkent.co.uk



OVER the past few years there has been a distinct rise in the quality and availability of top-class homegrown vegetables, meat, fish and fruit.

Farmers have raised their game in the face of stiff competition and pressure from supermarket chains. For me, running three restaurants in Kent, it is vital that I receive the best food and it's great to know that I can support local farmers and the local economy by buying local produce.

It's not just about buying local for the sake of it though. I need the best quality in my restaurants because that is what customers expect and, to be honest, I would not work with anything less.

Locality is only a part of the equation though. The best, tastiest food is that which is being grown right now. Seasonality is the key to not only eating the best, but also diversifying our menus and diets.

By eating food out of season, you are diminishing the experience. With spring well and truly here, now is the time when we are going to be seeing the very best produce,

meats and fish. Spring is one of the county's most colourful seasons, bringing richness in variety, taste and availability.

It's a time when we should be making the most of new season fruit, vegetables, meats and fish. The good thing about making the most of the plentiful availability of new season produce is that prices are also keener – you'll notice this reflected at the till.

Seasonality and making meals from food in plentiful supply has, due to the advent of supermarkets stocking their shelves with processed food, become something of a lost way of eating.

The impact this has had on local farming has meant we often sacrifice freshness and taste for accessibility.

Convenience is one thing, but when items which we can grow seasonally – and often better and tastier – are shipped half way around the world after being picked days and sometimes weeks before, we have to begin to question if it really is the best way.

This month, one of my favourite vegetables is in season and it is without doubt one of the most versatile and arguably best of English vegetables – asparagus.

The season doesn't last long, so let's make the most of this great vegetable that is grown all over Kent. When purchasing asparagus, go for the medium-sized stems as they have had enough time to take on the flavour, but not too much time to be tough.

Fresh asparagus can make the perfect accompaniment to any main course and works equally well with fresh fish or meat. The season also brings a fresh crop of new potatoes and in the next couple of weeks we have the arrival of spring lamb and Kentish crabs to look forward to.

The dish I have prepared this week is warm poached salmon, Kentish asparagus and warm new potato salad. This is a quick and easy dish to prepare but guaranteed to treat your taste buds to a range of subtle and strong flavours, making the most of our local produce.

All of the ingredients used in the recipe are available from the foodforkent.co.uk website.

Richard Phillips

RICHARD'S RECIPE

150g piece of Fresh Salmon Fillet (bones removed, skin left on)

Cooking liquor for the salmon
500ml water, 100ml Tenterden Chapel Down white wine, half a lemon juiced, 5 peppercorns, 8 parsley stalks

4 Kentish asparagus spears (peeled and cooked, in boiling salted water)
5 medium sized Jersey new potatoes
Teaspoon chopped chives, fine
Teaspoon chopped shallots, fine
50g rocket salad (washed)
5 yellow cherry tomatoes (cut in to halves)
10 green beans, Cooked in boiling water

Vinaigrette

150ml of olive oil
50ml of white wine vinegar
25ml luke warm water
Teaspoon of honey
Teaspoon grain mustard

Place the mustard and honey into a bowl, then whisk in the vinegar, then slowly add the olive oil, then finely add the water, season with salt and pepper



• Bring to the boil the cooking liquor for the salmon. Place the salmon into the liquid and turn off the heat, leave to stand for 4-5min. Remove from the cooking liquid, remove skin and flake into nice chunky pieces.

• Slice the cooked potatoes and mix with the chopped chives, shallots and a few drops of dressing (see recipe) season with salt and pepper, cover with cling film and keep warm. Mix the rocket leaves with the dressing just before serving

• Place the warm potatoes into the centre of the plate, then place the green beans and tomatoes on top then the rocket leaves, then the warm flaked salmon, arrange the asparagus spears around and drizzle with the grain mustard and honey dressing. Enjoy!

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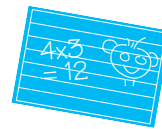
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BREAK TIME

Burlesque snippers are a cut above

LOVELY leggy ladies strutted their stuff for charity at the Theatre Royal in Margate last week.

Around £500 was collected for Demelza House children's hospice when the hairdressing students from Thanet College got audiences hot under the collar with a spectacular burlesque show.

Among the acts were cancan showgirls and sultry vocal numbers belted out by mum of two Gemma Jones.

The crowd were cheering and singing along at the showcase to highlight the newest talent in hair design.

The slick performances were the result of months of hard work aided by Sturry salon Dial-A-Style and local artist Shane McCoubrey, who helped bring the production to the stage.

Shane attracted national fame after moving to Thanet with the help of Channel 4's Relocation, Relocation.

He said: "I'm so proud of the girls. Look at what they've achieved. It's brilliant."



FRILLING DISPLAY: talented stylists strut their stuff on stage to raise money for Demelza House

Tilly races to victory in cross-country run

■ BY TOM BETTS

RUNNER Tilly Ellis-Jarman of Dane Court stole the show in the last race of the day at the Thanet Secondary Schools Cross-country Championships at Dane Court Grammar School.

Not only did Tilly beat all the other year seven girls – by a very long way – but she beat all the boys too.

The field of 118 included girls and boys from the Thanet Primary Schools Cross-Country League where Tilly first established herself in the sport.

However, Tilly is a very different athlete these days.

Coached by Derek Sackett at Thanet Roadrunners AC, she now has the technique and the confidence to add to her natural abilities and has already represented Kent Schools at the South of England Inter-counties match this year.

She took an early lead and by the halfway point on the one-mile course she had opened up a 50m gap ahead of Austen Wood and Sam King of Chatham House, who were already well clear of the field.

Tilly looked to have the race wrapped up but a sharp right turn and a short steep incline appeared to sap her energy and, as they approached the finish, the boys started to chase her down.

However, after a quick look over her shoulder, a final sprint saw Tilly complete a memorable victory in six minutes and three seconds.

It was agreed to run the girls and boys races together this year to challenge the very talented crop of young female runners in Thanet.

Organisers, the Thanet School Sport Partnership, and their partners from the Dane Court PE department declared the third running of the event a success.

A full programme of races took place with 469 competitors taking part.

Students from Dane Court, Chatham House, Ellington, Hartsdown, Hereson, Clarendon House, Ursuline, King Ethelbert's, Charles Dickens, the Marlowe Academy and St George's all took part.

Organiser Dave Walton, of the Thanet School Sport Partnership, went home a very happy man.

He said: "After two successful years at Chatham House, it was felt a larger venue was needed and Dane Court came up trumps. The setting of the course, the control of the start and finish lines as well as the provision of leaders and refreshments indicates the excellent organisational skills of the Dane Court staff."

"To get almost 500 runners around a cross-country course in five races over less than two hours takes some doing."

He added: "I hope we approach 600 or more runners in 2010."



FRONT RUNNER: Tilly Ellis-Jarman beat both girls and boys to win the Thanet Secondary Schools Cross-country Championships

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yourthanetblogger

Each week we get a mystery writer to air their views on living on the Isle of Thanet...



Dear Sir.... I've found even more reasons to be miserable

IT'S strange what people complain about, isn't it?

Here we are putting up with the worst recession since money was invented, and now there's the prospect of a swine flu pandemic.

What next, a plague of frogs? A spate of incurable boils?

With all the headlines blaring the latest Armageddon-causing catastrophe you could be forgiven for thinking 'can things get any worse?'

But even when people may be having visions of a population stricken with swine flu sinking beneath a global-warming-induced flood as bailiffs repossess our cars, there is always someone who will actively seek out more things to get worked up about.

For example, the latest set of figures from the Advertising Standards Agency reveals the adverts which attracted the most complaints over the last 12 months. Unfortunately, these were not complaints based on an advert's like-

lihood to annoy. Ocean Finance is safe for the moment, as are Barry Scott and the infuriating person who penned the theme for Sheila's Wheels, who deserves some kind of Clockwork Orange-style re-education programme.

No, these were genuine complaints, the dull sort contained in letters which begin: 'Dear Sir...' These are the 'genuinely offended', or at least the people who feel they should be offended by something because someone else may be offended.

This is a modern phenomenon; vicarious offence when the letter writer has failed to be offended enough themselves, so chooses to experience offence on behalf of other people.

It's easy to spot; just look for the phrase 'because X might offend Y'. 'Might' not 'has', because really the vicarious offendeer has no idea whether Y will be offended by X at all.

While most of the moaning about these second-hand moral transgressions is the pastime of prudes and the excessively politically correct, it can also be an excuse for failing to

confront or acknowledge important issues. Claiming offence is a coward's way of closing down debate on an uncomfortable subject, a favoured tool of extremists or others with an agenda to promote. Worse still is claiming to be offended by unpleasant truths, simply as a means of pretending they don't exist.

The advert that garnered the most complaints was made on behalf of children's charity Barnardo's, showing scenes of children being physically and emotionally abused.

The writers told the Advertising Standards Agency they were "concerned about the scenes" which included beatings and drug abuse. If these people were genuinely concerned, wouldn't it have made more sense to send a letter to Barnardo's?

Maybe even one with a cheque in it?

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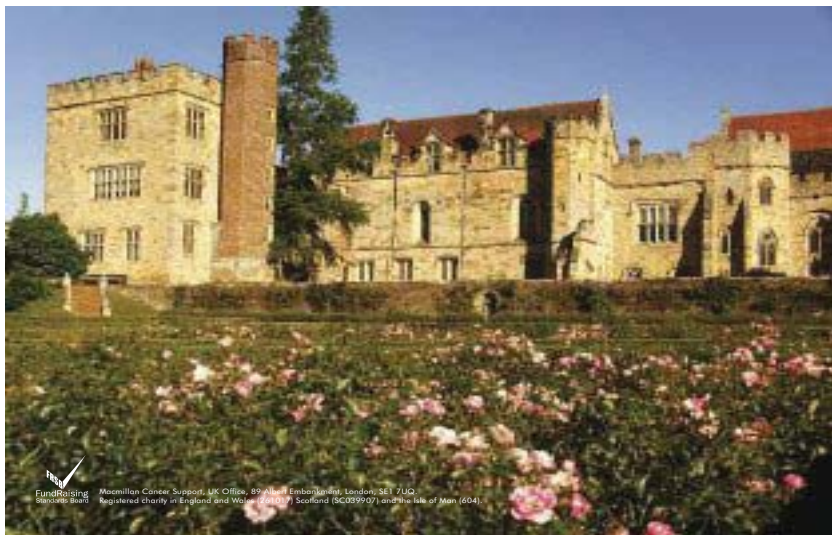
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To celebrate the launch of Robinsons be Natural, Robinsons' first range of squashes made from only naturally sourced ingredients, Robinsons are encouraging parents and children to take part in a nationwide photography competition.

For your chance to win a fantastic family safari to Africa, simply send in a photo of you and your kids enjoying nature together – anything from making a daisy chain to searching for tadpoles.

Find out more about the competition and enter at www.robinsonsd Drinks.com/benatural.

Robinsons be Natural is available in three delicious flavours – Orange & Passionfruit, Apple & Strawberry and Blackcurrant & Pear and can be found now in supermarkets across the country.

To encourage you to get out and enjoy nature, we are giving two lucky readers the chance to win a top of the range digital camera from Canon!

To be in with a chance of winning your very own Canon Powershot A480 10.0 Megapixel Digital Camera worth £149.99, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along

with your e-mail address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Robinsons Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR.

Question: How many flavours are there of Robinsons be Natural?

No purchase necessary.

For terms and conditions see www.kentnews.co.uk or call 01303 817073.

If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.

The closing date is June 1, 2009.



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EMAIL: Email us your letters to us at yourthanet@kosmedia.co.uk

TALK TIME

ANDY CADIER

The former pirate radio DJ who lives in east Kent spoke to us about how he first began broadcasting.



Tell us something about yourself.

After leaving school at 16 I joined the catering unit of the RAF and became an apprentice chef. Having qualified I worked at various military bases including two and a half years in Cyprus. It was while in Cyprus I helped produce some sponsored fundraising sketches which were broadcasts by the British Forces Broadcasting Service.

I came back to the UK in 1965, took a huge gamble and purchased my discharge from the RAF. Luck was certainly on my side as I heard some test transmissions being made by Radio Essex on 222 metres medium wave from a small fort-based pirate coming from Knock John Tower in the Thames and sent them a tape of me introducing pop records.

How did you first become involved in pirate radio?

I was invited to attend an interview with the owner of Radio Essex at Southend-on-Sea. I was asked what I did for a living and replied I was a chef at a Folkestone hotel. I never realised that in small stations everyone needed to be multi-skilled. It was run on a shoe-string and my cooking ability plus my DJ-ing was just what they needed.

What was the most enjoyable part of what you did?

I certainly enjoyed the music – what a way to earn a living – but it was the communication which gave me the biggest buzz. We used to get letters from all over the place. It's hard to explain now, with radio stations all over the dial, how people so much appreciated what we were doing, particularly in the face of threats by the Government to close the pirate stations down.

YOUR LETTERS

It's time we made some changes

AS Ramsgate Town Council begins a new era, presumably there are some accepted principles:

- Thanet council is incompetent, and the town council should raise this issue with it and the county council.
 - Our MPs should be more active in this, given Ramsgate has fallen down and Margate burned down over the decades.
 - A vote of no confidence in the Gang of Four: Messrs Samuel, White, Latchford and Ezekiel.
 - Ramsgate Town Council should take control of Manston, Pleasurama, harbour dredging and town refurbishment – it should also oversee China Gateway and tackle pollution.
 - Support a Margate Town Council as a necessary democratic counterweight if not a part-replacement for Thanet council – dual district, town and county seats seems a limit on democracy – as we've seen with the delays in creating Ramsgate Town Council from the overwhelming public petition.
 - RTC budget to draw on existing Thanet council budgets for specific town budgets, rather than the 'switching' between towns as the district administration changes.
 - Full transparency and disclosure of all meetings and comments under Freedom of Information and EIR with regular scheduled public meetings.
- Thanet council, the existing charter trustees, have failed the

public, but we now have a chance to reform the area.
It's time for change.

Tim Garbutt
Ramsgate

Labour never gave us their support

ON Friday, April 23, I was given a copy of Labour's Eastcliff Matters newsletter by a prospective Labour candidate.

Imagine my surprise when I read the following:

"Ramsgate Labour party has supported the introduction of a (Ramsgate) Town Council as an extension of local democracy.

"We have consistently voted for the Ramsgate Parish/Town council at every opportunity, the only party to have done so."

This is patently untrue.

I am deeply saddened that a party with which I was once associated should attempt to rewrite history and mislead the electors of Ramsgate.

As a matter of record, when the Conservative district council offered the people of Ramsgate a 'parish review' in December 2006 which produced positive support for a parish council in January 2007, many Ramsgate Labour Party members chose to abstain.

Throughout Ramsgate First's campaign during 2007 to secure signatures for the parish petition, not one single Labour councillor offered to help in any way, whatsoever.

One even accused us of bullying the signatories into signing: a charge that was overwhelmingly refuted by the result of the subsequent referendum in November 2007.

Newington Matters, the Labour

Party newsletter for Newington ward, actually advised its supporters not to sign our petition.

When the result of the referendum, an overwhelming vote in favour of a Ramsgate parish/town council, was read out by the chief executive, not one single Ramsgate Labour councillor present at the count offered Ramsgate First's representative any word of congratulation.

They did vote to recommend to the Secretary of State that Ramsgate be granted its own parish/town council in December 2007. But what choice did they then have? The results of the referendum they had voted for overrode all objections.

We in Ramsgate First welcome Ramsgate Labour Party's commitment to make our parish/town council a success. I would like to hear similarly from the Conservatives.

I would be grateful if we could stick to the facts in this election. We would not be voting in a Ramsgate parish/town council election in June if it had not been for Ramsgate First's determination to force the issue against the almost total hostility from district councillors.

Gerry O'Donnell
Ramsgate First

Is 'no' so hard to understand?

Re: the proposed amusement arcade in Birchington.

So Malcolm Rowlett is going to appeal to the Planning Inspectorate! What part of 'No' doesn't he understand?

The people of Birchington said 'No' at the public meeting.

They said 'No' again at the site

planning meeting. Birchington parish councillors said 'No'.

Birchington district councillors said 'No'. Thanet council planning said 'No'.

Mr Rowlett, we live in a democracy. Why can you not just accept 'No'?

This amusement arcade is not wanted in Birchington.

Bill Furness
Birchington Liberal Democrats

We simply don't want an arcade

I WILL not be amused if the person who wants to stick an arcade in the middle of our village appeals against the NO NO NO decision, made by Thanet council's democratically-elected planning committee.

The protest held on Friday, April 3, was attended by hundreds of residents who do not want an arcade or a so-called amusement centre in Birchington.

Cllrs Jo Roberts, John Worrow, Margaret Sheldrick, Roger Latchford and the rest of Birchington's elected representatives do not want it; almost all the shopkeepers do not want it.

My 18-year-old son and his friends told me that amusement arcades are a thing of the past anyway and they do not want it.

From talking to people in the village, I hear that there could be weekly protests and a major campaign to boycott it if it does go ahead.

My neighbour even said she is prepared to chain herself to the building, and I think if it comes to it I'll join her.

Barbara Cook
Birchington

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Get a treat and raise dough for charity

National Doughnut Week is fast approaching and I would like to make a special appeal to your readers to support this annual charity event, which takes place from May 9 to 16 in aid of The Children's Trust.

Everyone deserves a treat from time to time and this fun campaign is a great way to share some delicious doughnuts with family, friends and work colleagues, and also raise some dough for charity.

All you need to do is to purchase doughnuts from participating bakers – wherever you see the National Doughnut Week posters displayed.

By doing so, you will be helping to make a real difference to some very special children.

Money raised by participating bakers and the public will benefit The Children's Trust, a national charity, which provides care, education and therapy for children with multiple disabilities and complex health needs, and rehabilitation services to children with an acquired brain injury.

Last year, National Doughnut Week's fundraising activities across the UK raised more than £30,000 and, with your support, we hope to beat this figure in 2009.

So bakers, if you haven't done so, please register now and get baking and all you lovely people get buying.

For ideas on how to get involved, plus celebrities' doughnut

favourites, please visit: www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk/doughnuts.

To make credit or debit card donations, please call 01737 365027.

Thank you – and don't forget to buy yourself a doughnut treat!

Ainsley Harriot, TV presenter and chef, on behalf of The Children's Trust, by email

Listen up, it's time to check your hearing

During Deaf Awareness Week, which runs until this Sunday, RNID is asking us all to look after our hearing health and take the charity's special hearing check.

People can take up to 15 years to acknowledge their hearing loss.

RNID's message is simple – if you have hearing difficulties, dial 0844 800 3838 or visit www.rnid.org.uk/hearingmatters to check your hearing now so you can start taking steps to return to a fulfilling life.

RNID is The Co-operative charity of the year 2009 and as part of this partnership The Co-operative is supporting RNID's campaign to check the hearing of a million people.

During Deaf Awareness Week Co-operative Food stores will be fundraising and raising awareness about RNID's hearing checks.

RNID also wants to hear about the impact hearing loss has on peo-



HEAR THIS:
Richard Wilson

ple's everyday lives. Whatever your experiences – good or bad – please email your story, in confidence, to mediarelations@rnid.org.uk.

Richard Wilson OBE, actor, on behalf of RNID

Young carers, click into this competition

I have a family member who is affected by dementia so I know life can be difficult for those caring for a loved one. What I can't imagine is how much harder it is for the thousands of young people who take on this responsibility.

From my time in da Bungalow, I know that having the chance to cut loose and have fun is part of what being young is all about.

Sadly, many young people who are caring do not have the time to do so.

That's why I'm calling on all young carers to take a moment to escape from their daily routine and take part in Zoom! – a national photo competition for young carers.

Zoom! is open to any carer under the age of 18. You just need to enter a photo you have taken which reflects any aspect of your life for the chance to win one of ten great prizes. Entries must be submitted by May 14 and winners will be announced during Carers Week, June 8-14.

For details see www.carersweek.org or call 0845 241 2582.

Richard McCourt, Dick from Dick and Dom, by email

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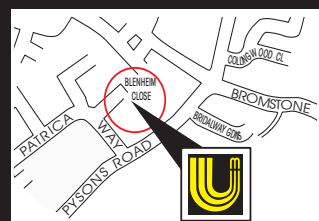
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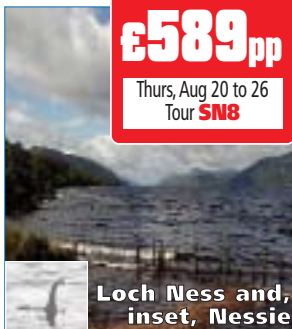
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yourleisure

In search of the truth

Philip Pullman's lavish Dark Materials is brought to the stage in two parts – and you can bring your own picnic

HIS DARK MATERIALS

Wednesday, May 6 to Sunday,
May 10
Churchill Theatre, Bromley



READERS all over the world have been captivated by Philip Pullman's epic fantasy series His Dark Materials.

The first of the award-winning trilogy, *The Golden Compass*, was turned into a Hollywood blockbuster in 2007 and now theatregoers can enjoy a lavish production of the story when it visits Kent this week.

The Churchill Theatre will be the only venue in the South East on the show's UK tour, so fans should not miss the chance to catch this major production.

In order to do justice to the sprawling story, the show is presented in two parts which can both be seen in one day, with time for a 'picnic break' between performances. Alternatively, there is an opportunity to see the two performances on separate evenings.

Set in worlds that are both familiar and unknown, *His Dark Materials* follows the thrilling adventures of young Lyra and her friend Will, a boy on the run.

When Lyra hears her uncle, Lord Asriel, arguing with religious authorities about the mysterious 'dust', she sets out to discover the truth. Her journey will take her to the Arctic and bring her into the company of the intriguing, but dangerous Mrs Coulter.

She meets fantastical creatures in parallel worlds, from the child-catching Gobblers to armoured polar bears. Although Lyra lives in an Oxford which looks much like our own, hers is a world in which people's souls are brought to life in the form of animals, or daemons.

Birmingham Repertory Theatre's artistic director Rachel Kavanaugh has worked with specialist puppet company Blind Summit Theatre to bring these magical creatures to life, while a company of 25 actors will bring Pullman's characters from the



Picture CATHERINE ASHMORE

FACING YOUR DAEMONS: Puppeteers bring the fantasy animals to life in the stage version of the award-winning *His Dark Materials* stories, which is coming to Bromley's Churchill Theatre

page to the stage. In part one, Lyra uncovers the secrets of the truth-telling alethiometer and learns that her fate is strangely linked with Will's.

Together they must find a magical knife which can take them to parallel worlds, but in part two Lyra is kidnapped. Will must help to free her before they can travel to the land of the dead and fight to decide the fate of Good and Evil.

His Dark Materials can be seen in its entirety on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. Bring your own picnic or enjoy between shows. Part one will also be performed at 7pm tonight, followed by part two at 7pm on Friday.

Tickets are priced from £21 to £30 for each performance. See both parts in one day and enjoy discounted rates of £80 for two people and £146 for families of four.

To book call the box office on 0870 060 6620 or visit the website at www.ambassadorstickets.com/bromley.



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RAMSGATE ROCKS

Saturday and Sunday,
July 4-5
Ramsgate Royal Harbour



GET ready to rock as the Ramsgate Town Partnership unveils this year's big summer event.

Ramsgate Rocks will provide an array of free family entertainment over a weekend, with fun for all ages at Ramsgate Royal Harbour.

From live music and theatre to gastronomic delights, there will be something to float everybody's boat.

People can look forward to taking a thrilling ride at the funfair, being captivated by the street entertainers and browsing the craft and commercial stalls for bargains. Music fans will have the chance to rock out to live bands or relive the glory days of their favourite group with the line-up of tribute acts.



Foodies will not feel left out with a continental market and an entire food and drink village to explore. The weekend will end in style with a spectacular firework display over the harbour on the Saturday night.

As Ramsgate Town Partnership prepares for the event, there are still marketing and sponsorship opportunities, along with trade stalls, call Katie Lipington on 07939 272810 or email Katie@urbanerrands.co.uk.

RHYDIAN ROBERTS

Sunday, May 17
Winter Gardens, Margate



WITH his unmistakable voice and look, Rhyddian Roberts takes centre stage on his first solo tour.

Roberts shot to fame in 2007 when he appeared on ITV's The X-Factor, though at first he was portrayed as something of an oddball. But his incredible voice soon won over the judges and audiences, with his flamboyant and unpredictable performances becoming the highlight of each show.

Despite losing out to eventual winner Leon Jackson, Roberts was signed to Sony BMG by Simon Cowell and spent almost a year recording his debut album. During the show he achieved one of his dreams by singing a duet with Katherine Jenkins, but that was just the start of an amazing career.

The Welsh singer was invited to perform at Andrew Lloyd Webber's 60th birthday party and he has also sung for Prince Charles, who asked him to become a patron of The Prince's Trust. Find out why royalty have enjoyed his performances when Roberts visits Thanet next week.

Doors open at 7pm and tickets cost £25. Book at www.margatewintergardens.co.uk or www.gigantic.com or call the box office on 01843 292795/296111.



GILBERT AND SULLIVAN DOUBLE BILL

Tuesday to Saturday,
May 12-16
Theatre Royal, Margate



A **BROKEN** engagement and a powerful love potion feature in a Gilbert and Sullivan double bill.

Ramsgate Operatic Society presents two short operas that celebrate two very different sides of love. The popular one-act show Trial By Jury explores what happens when two matinee idols fall out in a time when 'breach of promise' was still a legal offence and conduct a court case under the full glare of the media spotlight.

Nathan Drake takes his first principal part as the Defendant opposite Erin Taylor as his snubbed co-star, while comic actor Ian Ulrich tries to keep control



of proceedings as the Judge.

An entire village is thrown into confusion when a magic love potion creates chaos and some highly unsuitable unions. Simon Braybrooke plays the culprit John Wellington Wells, while husband-and-wife team James

and Donna Smith take on the romantic leads, Alexis and Aline.

Tickets are priced from £8 to £11 and there is a special offer for the matinee, offering one half-price child ticket with each adult. To book call 0845 1301786.

THANET LEISURE

Enjoy an escape when you come to the cafe

EXPERIENCE the indefinable sound of multi-instrumentalists Pit er Pat when they perform in Ramsgate.

The critically acclaimed, genre-straddling group's sound has been described as 'music for escapists'. They visit the Belgian Cafe at the Royal Harbour on Sunday.

For more about the venue call 01843 587925 or visit www.belgiancafe.co.uk.

Play brings comedy to man's double life antics

A **BIGAMISTS** double life is under threat in Caught In The Net, the sequel to Ray Cooney's farce Run For Your Wife.

Taxi driver John Smith becomes even more stressed when two of his children, by different mothers, meet on the internet. Minster Playhouse presents the show at Minster-In-Thanet Village Hall from tonight to Saturday. Tickets cost £6/£5. To book call 01843 822053.

Make yourself a star in competition audition

TALENTED local people are invited to show off their skills at the Granville Theatre in Ramsgate this weekend.

Heat five of Make Me A Star is at the theatre at 7.30pm on Sunday and it will be the last chance to take part before the semi-final. To book an audition call Trudi or Ralph on 01843 855000. It is free to enter the contest but audience tickets cost £7. To book call 01843 591750.

Ramble on over to take part in walking festival

PUT your best foot forward and discover the joy of rambling with the Thanet Walking Festival.

The festival runs until Saturday, offering the chance to discover why walkers love the area. Key local groups reveal the isle's most popular walks and there are daily country and town walks.

For details call 01843 846427 or visit www.thanetwalkingfestival.co.uk.

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A Golden line-up at Lounge on the Farm



ON THE LIST: Golden Silvers will be at the festival

INFECTIOUSLY-catchy hitmakers Golden Silvers are among the latest batch of bands and artists to be added to the Lounge on the Farm line-up.

The London trio – behind the three-minute piece of pop perfection that is True Romance – will play the Canterbury three-dayer alongside the likes of Casiokids, Son Of Dave, A Hawk And A Hacksaw and Josh Weller.

Two Kent favourites have also been con-

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

firmed for Lounge 2009 – with punk upstarts Underground Heroes and the joyous Kid Harpoon set to take to the Farm.

Organisers behind the Merton Farm festival, now in its fourth year, said there were more top acts to be announced.

LOTF's Matt Gough said: "We're really happy with the line-up this year.

"As ever we've been picking off the bands we've been listening to the most so it's very

much representative of our current tastes.

"And we'd like to think we have pretty good tastes. It's worked so far.

"We do have a Saturday headliner yet to announce but it's not quite confirmed yet."

Lounge on the Farm has quickly grown into one of the country's biggest little festivals, largely thanks to its focus on the experience rather than just the music.

The Farm offers a range of activities to keep the children entertained, food and drink sourced locally and a host of non-music performers.

Mr Gough added: "We're offering something completely different to a festival where everything is just about the headliners on the bill.

"There's such quality throughout our line-up we're quite happy without having to enter that particular rat race."

Lounge runs from Friday, July 10 to Sunday, July 12.

Last year's sell-out festival saw hundreds of top bands and artists perform across six stages, ranging from the Cow Shed to the Sheep Dip.

The line-up boasted the likes of Art Brut, The Coral, New York Dolls, Black Kids and Mystery Jets.

For more information visit www.loungeonthefarm.co.uk.

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- 4 Shelta – Beautiful Girl (from Bexley)
- 5 Poppy Wilson – Carbon Copy (from Maidstone)

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PRIMARK

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THE search is on for a 'real woman' to be the face of bottled water brand Willow.

Willow was the official water of the Britain's Next Top Model series and is a favourite with celebrities. Now the company is hunting for a fresh beauty to front its national marketing campaign.

Send a head-and-shoulder shot and contact details, along with a statement of no more than 30 words saying why you love being a natural beauty, to willow.water@brazenpr.com by May 22.

Cordial invitation to try a delicious new flavour

GET ready for a very British summer with Bottlegreen's new Classic Variety Cordials range.

Wash down those picnics and barbecues with Williams Pear & Elderflower, Blackberry & Russet Apple and Cox's Apple & Plum, all created using an array of natural ingredients.

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Have a dip in a wholly guilt-free experience

HELP wildlife while you wash with the RSPB's new Skinner Dipper bath and shower products.

The fun and fresh range contains no palm oil, the production of which has destroyed vast areas of rainforest, or phosphates which cause major problems for rivers and wetlands. All the profits from sales will go directly into the conservation work of the RSPB.

Prices start at £3.50 and the range can be bought at www.rspbshop.co.uk.

Burberry price cuts are truly heaven scents

FANS of Burberry fragrances are in luck with Lloyds Pharmacy's special offer this month.

Burberry Summer 08 Man usually retails at £29 for 100ml, but the pharmacy chain is offering it at a reduced price of £19. There is a £9 saving on Burberry Summer 08 Woman, with 50ml bottles being reduced to £18.

Both offers are available until May 26. Visit www.lloydspharmacy.com to find your nearest store.

Bite into Continental treats at the market

ENJOY a taste of the Continent at a French market in Tunbridge Wells this weekend.

Shoppers can pick up authentic and delicious French produce as this popular market returns. It will be held in the Upper Pantiles from 10am to 4pm on Saturday and Sunday.

Parking can be found off Mayor York's Road. For more information about events at The Pantiles visit the website at www.thepantilesonline.co.uk.

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Two nights at the five-star Shangri-la Marina, Cairns
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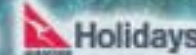
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Jordan reveals its ancient secrets

■ BY KELLY MACNAMARA

WE are perched high above the valley in the magnificent Dana Nature Reserve, looking west across the vast Dana Valley towards the horizon where Jordan comes to an end.

Jordan's story is a complex one. Positioned at the crossroads of inter-continental trade routes, it has been an important conquest for many an ambitious empire. All the big hitters of the ancient world – Babylonians, Egyptians, Greeks, Romans, Persians and finally the British – ruled it at one time or another.

Today, Jordan is an oasis of calm in a region racked by bitter dispute. It is encircled by instability, with Iraq on its north-east border, Israel and the Palestinian territories to the west and Syria in the north.

Dana's wonderful Rummana Campsite on the 76,000-acre reserve is home to about 600 species of plants, 37 species of mammals and 190 species of birds, and is the perfect place to discover the wilder side of Jordan.

Arriving after a sumptuous lunch at the Dana Guesthouse, which included a mouth-watering selection of local cuisine and jaw-dropping views, I travelled with a small group to the campsite on a remote plateau with its cluster of sail-white tents surrounded by serene red mountains.

Our host is Saleh, a Bedouin whose eloquence is matched by his evident enchantment with the place where his family has lived for generations.

He takes me on a short hike rich with observations: which rock to climb for the best views; the onion-like plant favoured by local hedge-



OASIS OF CALM: The dramatic landscape of the Dana Valley in Jordan is revealed to visitors by Bedouin guides

hogs; a badger sett; the paw print of a lynx in the dust.

My next stop is another of Jordan's mysteries – the ancient city of Petra.

Built by the industrious Nabatean people, this legendary city deep inside a narrow desert gorge once dominated the trading routes of ancient Arabia, sheltering caravans laden with Indian spices and African ivory.

Walking through corridors of sheer rock torn open in a prehistoric earthquake, I am struck by the otherworldliness of the place.

A steep climb in the murderous heat is rewarded by the ethereal monastery, and a chilled drink at a mountain-top cafe.

My bed for the night awaits amid the whispering mountains of Wadi Rum, in south-west Jordan. This is Lawrence of Arabia country: rugged, silent and awe-inspiring.

After a few days' camping in Jordan's wild, arid interior, it is time to get my feet wet.

Heading south, I don a snorkel to explore the Red Sea coral reef and potter around this colourful underwater garden for an afternoon, before coming up for a fish lunch.

My final destination is water of a less hospitable kind. Circled by a glittering necklace of salt crystals, the Dead Sea is a cruel irony in a country with such water problems. Dense with salt, you cannot drink it or swim in it, and the only creatures able to live in it are two hardy species of bacteria.

Walking in, your legs are pushed from under you and you bob about like a cork.

Conflict may be more than a minor character in Jordan's grand narrative, but its warm, sanguine people and extraordinary landscape are the real story.

FACT FILE: JORDAN

Time difference	+ 2/3 hours (GMT)
Language	Arabic
Capital	Amman
Population	4.4 million
Religion	Majority Sunni Muslims
Currency	Dinar
Climate	Arid

Travel facts

Kelly Macnamara was a guest of the Jordan Tourism Board and flew direct to Amman from Heathrow with bmi, which costs from £494 return. Regional connections to London from Aberdeen, Glasgow and Manchester cost from about £80 return.

BMI reservations: 0870 6070 555 and www.flybmi.com
Tour operator Exodus offers a nine-day Jordan trip to Petra, Wadi Rum, Red Sea and Dead Sea from £599, land-only price.

Exodus reservations: 0845 863 9600 and www.exodus.co.uk

Jordan Tourism Board enquiries: 020 7371 6494 and www.visitjordan.com

You can book most camping spots, including Dana, through The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature website (www.rscn.org.jo).

Contact Mzied for details of Wadi Rum camping (www.mzied.com)

For more information about the Kempinski Ishtar, visit www.kempinski-deadsea.com



PETRA: Ancient trading city

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YOUR TV REVIEW

■ BY TOM BETTS

THE BIG BANG THEORY Channel 4, 9.30pm, Thursday

I STUMBLED upon The Big Bang Theory about a year ago, after Channel 4 started screening it on Thursday nights.

Shamlessly under-promoted, this remains one of the better comedy shows out there, and has gathered a real cult following in the States.

Centring on the lives of two college super-brained, flat-sharing geeks, with IQs that make Carol Vorderman look like a village idiot, the pair get into the usual sitcom scrapes.

They juggle their love lives, Klingon Boggle marathons and trying to impress the super hot girl next door, Penny, a waitress with one eye on Hollywood and the other on Leonard, the show's principal lead.

Very much a foil to move the story along, Penny takes the geeks where no geeks have gone before.

It's Jim Parsons' portrayal of the spiky and prodigious Dr Sheldon Cooper that steals the show, though.

Neurotic, exacting to a fault, and with the kind of waspish nature that is often so bizarre it borders on psychotic, it is the kind of turn that steals almost every show – that would steal any show – and should net the actor a gong or two come the next award season.

Even more remarkable is the fact he is actually aged 36 and not once looks out of place playing the role of the physicist still in his early 20s.

Thrown into the mix to keep things interesting are two more oddballs.

There is the sex-obsessed and Jewish mother dominated Howard Woolowitz, who is never one to side-step sleazing his way into any female's affections and Rajesh Koothrappali, the shy one who cannot utter a word



BIG BANG: Jim Parsons is simply excellent in his portrayal of uber geek Dr Sheldon Cooper

to any woman he finds attractive.

I can't say this is a total blinder, and the canned laughter can be a little hard to put up with, but TBBT is certainly as good as any other light comedy coming out of America right now.

It's short, snappily written and improving all the time.

It's hard to see that this is going to appeal to anyone who is not into sarcastic fast-moving sitcoms but those who like that sort of thing will most likely appreciate this.

It also has the best theme tune on TV, sung by Barenaked Ladies, a band born to perform such a thing if ever there was.

Perhaps it is the geek, and not the meek, who shall inherit the Earth.

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

YOUR conscience is really starting to bother you. Maybe it's time to explain to a colleague where you went wrong. Of course, your relationship will undergo tremendous strain as a result, but at least you'll be giving them a chance to heal. Your financial picture is looking good.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

ARGUMENTS over politics and religion could tear a relationship apart. Avoid such subjects like the plague. If you're in love with someone whose beliefs are radically different, the two of you may have to get counselling. You can no longer avoid the elephant in the room.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

HORRIBLE work or living conditions prompt you to make a change. It may be necessary to move to an unfamiliar area. Although you hate being uprooted like this, it's better than stewing in your own juices. A pay raise or lucrative job could finally be awarded to you.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

ABUSIVE behaviour can no longer be tolerated. You've got a high threshold for this kind of nonsense, but enough is enough. When you face up to this tormentor, they'll back down. If you have to resort to underhanded behaviour to make your point, do it; just don't get caught!

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

PEER pressure is rearing its ugly head. It looks as though you'll have to break ranks, if only as a way to cut costs. There's no point in going to restaurants or clubs you can't afford. If friends can't understand find more supportive companions. On the romantic front, you're making progress.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531753



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

A HANG up could be undermining an intimate relationship. One or both of you needs to come to terms with this problem. Don't be afraid to get help. A costly home improvement project could finally be finished, and the results are impressive and add value to your living space.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

A LOVE affair is heading for the rocks. Although it's fun delving into taboo areas, you need to consider how your actions are affecting innocent people. It's also possible you're developing an addiction to the person in question. Put some space between the two of you, if only short term.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

COMPROMISING your values for the sake of fitting in is a big mistake. No matter how much you think you want a job, relationship or fame, walk away. Healthier options are on the horizon. For now, obey your conscience. An authority figure could reward your noble choice.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

POWER struggles are likely with an overbearing boss. No amount of flattery will help you get around them. You're better off following their orders and let the chips fall where they may. Avoid buying any gadgets, as you'll just have to return them later. Faulty equipment abounds.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

A CONTROLLING friend, workmate or lover is getting on your nerves, assert yourself, before the entire relationship goes south. Continuing to give in to their demands is undermining your self esteem. Don't reveal somebody's secret, or you'll pay a hefty price for your indiscretion.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

CONDITIONS at home have become unbearable. Your family is pressuring you to adopt values that make no sense for your lifestyle. It's more important to satisfy yourself than fit in. If that means suspending communications with certain relatives, so be it. Patience will be rewarded.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

YOUR overbearing behaviour is starting to chafe on family members. As much as you hate to admit it, you cannot save people from themselves. If somebody decides to take a dangerous path, get out of their way. If you're dealing with a youngster, try to see things from their view.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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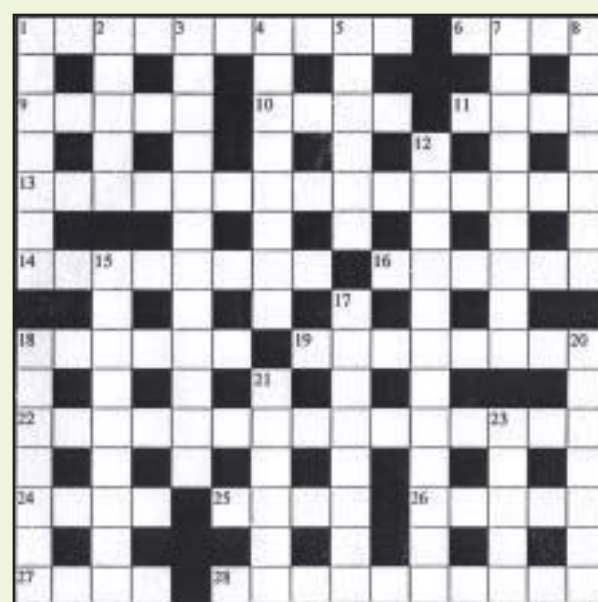
ACROSS

- 1 Live stroke in advance (10)
- 6 Which French duke had money? (4)
- 9 Go over again corn initially during harvest (5)
- 10 Drop off at twelve almost (4)
- 11 Tie at speed (4)
- 13 Handy drawing (9,6)
- 14 Contained in old records vicar Hal unearthed (8)
- 16 Lady in network (6)
- 18 Indian child in nursery (6)
- 19 Polly got round multilingualist (8)
- 22 One who is shy pressing only one flower (9,6)
- 24 Reported girl with wrong cat (4)
- 25 You had resistance leaving trio (4)
- 26 Excited Ada up from Italian city (5)
- 27 Expedition leader went inside parched nest (4)
- 28 Song rather discordant not designed to go the distance (5-5)

DOWN

- 1 Clerical overhead? (7)
- 2 In a terrific hurry to get a cape (5)
- 3 Bringing out for at least the second time (12)
- 4 Hurried, say, on a road to refuge (8)
- 5 Open end of tube (6)
- 7 Strained one French note (9)
- 8 Did include square revolutionary who had been abandoned (7)
- 12 Thin bird, one getting into the water with nothing on (6-6)
- 15 Space allowed for removal of obstructions (9)
- 17 Long-jumper, not MP, becoming itinerant minstrel (8)
- 18 Actors went first and changed positions (7)
- 20 In laboratory, measure speed of small bird? (7)
- 21 The last Henry's position (6)
- 23 Eland struggled weighed down (5)

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QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Incomparable (10)
- 6 Bible passage (4)
- 9 Deceive (5)
- 10 Conceited (4)
- 11 Anniversary of death (4)
- 13 Veal cutlet (6,9)
- 14 Condemn openly (8)
- 16 Mixture (6)
- 18 Cheerful (6)
- 19 Armorial (8)
- 22 Very pure (6,4,5)
- 24 Milky gem (4)
- 25 Gold-coloured (4)
- 26 Drunkard (5)

DOWN

- 27 Always (4)
- 28 Famous (10)
- 1 Not overcome (7)
- 2 Avoid (5)
- 3 Not often visited (12)
- 4 Languishing with amorous desire (8)
- 5 Elijah's successor (6)
- 7 Acted fraudulently (9)
- 8 Wholly (7)
- 12 Effervescent drink (7,5)
- 15 Wink (9)
- 17 Pear-tree (anag.) (8)
- 18 Mandible (7)
- 20 Gladdened (7)
- 21 Industrial action (6)
- 23 Computer data (5)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No86

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CRYPTIC SOLUTION No85

ACROSS: 1 Unequaled 6 Text 9 Bluff 10 Vain 11 Obit 13 Wiener schnitzel 14 Denounce 16 Medley 18 Jocund 19 Heraldic 22 Whiter than white 24 Opal 25 Gift 26 Toper 27 Ever 28 Celebrated. DOWN: 1 Unbowed 2 Elude 3 Unfrequented 4 Lovesick 5 Elisha 7 Embezzled 8 Totally 12 Mineral water 15 Nicotinate 17 Repartee 18 Jawbone 20 Cheered 21 Strike 23 Input.

QUICK SOLUTION No86

Overrun 20 Toilet 21 Shadow 23 Capon. 15 Undercut 16 Quatrain 17 Mace 19 Brunswick 7 Excel 9 Jean 14 Manuscript 24 Toothsome 25 Spectacled bear 26 one man 17 Making up 18 Ludo 22 Cache block 10 Fishermen 11 Valve 12 Lion 13 As. ACROSS: 1 Zebra 4 Scoured 8 Stumbling-

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RACE TO WITCH MOUNTAIN (PG)



When a Las Vegas taxi-driver picks up two runaway teenagers, he discovers they have supernatural powers and finds himself caught up in the middle of a magical adventure.

MONSTERS VS ALIENS (PG)



When Susan Murphy (Reese Witherspoon) grows to 49ft 11in, she is taken to a secret government compound that houses a selection of monsters who are called upon to save the world.

Hollywood hunk loves his life as a family man

■ BY ELLIE GENOWER

TURNING 40 is reason enough for many people to have a mini mid-life crisis.

But Matthew McConaughey, who celebrates the big 4-0 this November, isn't too worried.

In fact, this laidback Hollywood hunk is pretty pleased with the way life is going, especially being a dad to nine-month-old Levi, his son with Brazilian model Camila Alves.

"I look at it as like they're new chapters," he says. "Finding a woman I want to settle down with was a new chapter; having Levi – a new chapter, same book."

McConaughey's real life is a far cry from his latest character in new comedy *Ghosts Of Girlfriends Past*.

He plays womanising celebrity photographer Connor, who thinks nothing of breaking up with multiple women on a conference call while arranging his next date.

"Connor is really not out to hurt anyone, he just wants to have a good time," says the actor. "But he's also a guy who has lost his way and doesn't know it."

Connor's romantic scepticism proves to be a bit of a downer on the eve of his brother Paul's wedding and doesn't impress his houseful of guests, including his childhood friend Jenny (Jennifer Garner), who has no patience with Connor's philandering ways.

But that night Connor is visited by the ghost of his late Uncle Wayne (Michael Douglas), who shows Connor where he's going wrong by taking him through a revealing past, present and future odyssey of failed relationships.

"The ghosts were a big unrealistic thing, but that's just one of the things that made this one original," says the star, who is well known for



LAID BACK: Leading man Matthew McConaughey

his roles in rom-coms like *Fool's Gold* and *Failure To Launch*.

McConaughey admits he isn't too bothered about tying the knot with Camila.

"Am I getting married in the future? Not today," he says. "I don't have any plans for it."

With several movies under his belt and a sex symbol image to boot, he has had to get used

VIEW THIS PREVIEW

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to increased interest in his personal life, especially since baby Levi came along.

"I personally don't choose to retreat or hide out," he says. "I didn't know what the hell stardom was about and didn't expect it," he adds. "I like how it's going. I'm happy."

Things may have changed for the actor in the past 20 years, but he says Levi's arrival hasn't altered his way of life.

He seems pleased to be able to incorporate Levi into his often-nomadic lifestyle.

"We've been to Brazil twice, Italy and France and Germany. And we've gone 7,300 miles on a road-trip in the Airstream (caravan) for 42 days, so we've had a lot of the same adventures we would have had before Levi came along, we've just brought him along with us."

GHOSTS OF GIRLFRIENDS PAST 
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WOMEN seeking men

TAKE ME FOR WHO I AM

Hi I'm Sam, 22, looking for a relationship. I'm blonde, have brown eyes, love cosy nights in and cinema, looking to share a relationship. Box 447871

SWEET DEBS

Hopeful, happy, shy girl, 22, loves all the normal stuff about life, searching for a mature guy, 24-39, for loving friendship and happiness. Box 880373

SINGLE DADS WELCOME

Love single mum, 33, cuddly and curvy, 5ft6, blonde and blue-eyed, like a drink, animals, reading, cinema, looking for honest, trustworthy and caring male. Box 451249

MATCH OF THE DAY!

Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5ft2, a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494

GETTING TO KNOW YOU...

Sociable girl, 28, loves pubs, social drinks, meeting new people & more, seeks similar male, 38-62, for a lasting relationship. Box 448756

GIVE AND TAKE IN LOVE

Living loyal female, 30, blue eyes, brown hair, seeking LTR with male 30-35, 6ft+, no baggage, in the Maidstone area. Box 448471

SEEKING MR DARCY

Warm, kind and sincere woman, 31, lots of love and loyalty for the right person, seeking an honest genuine man with a good heart. Box 451004

GET A STRIKE

African, single mum, caring, adventurous, generous, 30yrs old, medium build, 1 love cinema/TV, music, bowling, shopping, cosy nights in. Box 882789

HAPPY SHOPPER!

Easgoing female, 32, enjoys shopping, football, eating out, cosy night in, WLTm loving, caring white male, 35-47, for long-term, loving relationship. No time-wasters. Box 444214

HORSES FOR COURSES...

Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013

CARING, CONSIDERATE, HOPEFULLY YOURS

Love young lady, 33, 5ft8, cuddly larger build, single mum, seeking kind, caring, honest and genuine man for friendship...hopefully more. Box 450371

CHATHAM UP!

Pretty black female, 32, tall, loves watching football, shopping, travel, seeking tall, white, loving male, 34-47, for LTR. Chatham. Box 437778

CUDDLY FEMALE

32, 5ft9, brown hair, curvy figure, enjoys having fun and a laugh and WLTm nice, kind gent. Box 439402

FIT FOR FUN

Petite, dark-haired girl, 33, 5ft, fit, loves badminton, cinema and more, searching for an active man, with heart and soul. Box 881047

SOUND GOOD?

Hello I'm 35, kind, caring and non-smoking, enjoy cooking, cinema, music, dining in and out, looking for that special someone to enjoy a relationship with. Box 447595

LIVING IT

Fair-haired female, 35, 5ft, loves the gym, pubs, nights out and fine company, searching for fun bloke, for life, love and laughter. Box 881011

HISTORIC MEETING?

Mum of three, 36, long mousey hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out, seeks kind, caring, genuine male 36-49, non-smoker, for LTR. Box 440693

LOVE TO LOVE YOU

Lovely female, 36, 5ft4, medium-large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102

LOOKING FOR A LOVING CHAP

Asford-based woman looking for an honest, friendly, caring and loving man. I have two kids and enjoy the usual things in life. Box 446985

ON THE LOOKOUT FOR LOVE

37yr old female, 2 kids, slim, brown hair and eyes, 5ft2, looking for a caring, loving, honest and trusting male to be my someone special. Box 446552

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MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE

Good looking woman, 37, 5ft2, brown hair/eyes, 2 kids. Looking for new friends and hopefully someone special. Box 446039

WISHFULLY YOURS

Loving female, 37, 5ft2, brown hair, slim, looking for honest, caring male with GSOH, for friendship, leading to more. Ashford. Box 449915

SEIZE THE DAY

Loving female, 36, 5ft4, brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666

MEND A BROKEN HEART

Single mum, 37, fun-loving, been hurt in past, looking for nice, genuine guy for hopeful happiness - no time wasters! Box 908053

BLONDE AMBITION

Bubbly, cuddly, blonde single mum, 39, 5ft6, likes cars, reading, pubs, cosy nights in, having a laugh, looking for that right male for LTR. Box 905614

CUTE AS CAN BE

Cute, single mum of 4, 38yrs old, Kent-based, into most things, looking for friendship or possibly romance. Box 897983

DON'T LET ME DOWN

Pretty, black female, 38, 5ft4, like football, socialising and cooking, looking for a loving and caring male, 38-42, for a LTR. Box 446884

ENTHUSIASTICALLY ENCOURAGED!

Lovely pretty big-busted lady, 39, medium build, 5ft5, lots of energy! likes the gym, reading, new experiences! seeking a nice man for potential exciting relationship! Box 446724

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THE SIMPLE THINGS...

I like reading/writing, going out, music. Seeking kind, genuine, honest chap; I'm a 40yr old woman who enjoys the simple things in life. Box 448542

JOINED AT THE HIP

Sociable petite girl with great SOH, 40, blonde, sociable, love football! Looking for fun guy with great SOH for inseparable partnership. Box 880434

TIME TO LIVE AGAIN

Lovely 40yr old female, average build, brown hair, blue eyes, 5ft2, bubbly and GSOH...would like friendship and maybe more with the right man. Box 880149

A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE

Lovely, glossy brunette, 39yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatre, music and eating out, WLTm a professional, loving and tactile male for a relationship. Box 442551

NO TIRED

Lonely, bored, professional Tunbridge Wells Asian lady, 40, WLTm slim, single, solvent, professional white male 40-50 for company, fun, love and laughter. Box 443573

WHERE LOVE TAKES US

Attractive woman with a great personality to go with, looking to meet a fit, tall, well-built black male, 35-55, for fun times and hopefully romance. Box 450650

A HEART FULL OF LOVE

Nice looking, 41yr old mixed race female, likes cinema, walks, eating out, bowling, WLTm a genuine white male with GSOH for a fun filled friendship/relationship. Box 450890

A FAIRY TALE ENDING

Easy-going blonde animal lover, 41, easy-going and tactile, enjoy eating out, cinema and pubs, looking for a loyal, caring and funny man, 35-45. Box 451079

FANCY A DRINK?

Hi I'm Judith, 40, small, blonde hair, blue eyes, love the sea and water-sports, cinema, animals; WLTm fun-loving guy for friendship and see what happens. Box 448107

ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Hello, I'm Nikki, 41yr young, 5ft1, enjoys dining out, cinema and dancing, seeking a male for friendship, possible romance and fun times. Box 444796

COSY TIMES TOGETHER

Fun-loving female, 42, looking for someone who can make me laugh and enjoys country walks, films, travelling and a nice evening cuddled up. Box 881545

ALONG THE SHORE

Recently divorced woman, 43, 5ft3, slim, hard-working, fun-loving, likes life, looking for a really nice and trustworthy guy for a relationship. Hastings Box 451469

LET'S CLUCK

WLTm a nice guy with a similar nature; I'm an outgoing woman, 42, with brown hair and green eyes. Tell me about you! Box 446847

LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL

Good-looking brunette from Kent, 43, 5ft10, likes bowling, eating in/out etc. Looking for a good-looking guy, 35-45, with GSOH for friendship/relationship. Box 450348

TLC ON OFFER FOR THE RIGHT PERSON!

Blonde, blue eyed woman, 44, fun-loving, looking for Mr Right, I love going out, nights in, movies, walking, local gigs. WLTm the right man for TLC. Box 880280

LOOKING FOR LTR

Single mum, petite, 44, brown hair/eyes, looking to share my life with a nice man, a Russian man would be great! I like cinema, pubs, music. Box 451373

THIS STATE OF INDEPENDENCE

Hard-working female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent woman, love to laugh, socialising with friends, looking for independent man who values TLC. Box 414156

COULD IT BE YOU?

Hi I'm 44, slim, 5ft8, a redhead, love nights out, socialising, looking for friendship initially and hopefully more later on. Box 889800

A FINE ROMANCE

Pleasant female, 43, medium/large build, blue/green eyes, grown up children, beach walks, relaxing, reading, wine, seeks sincere male with GSOH, for LTR. Box 429071

COME ON DOWN!

Honest, bubbly female 45, long hair, slim, enjoys walking, cinema, socialising; seeks sincere male, friendly chap for friendship leading to more. Box 882693

LOVING IT LARGE

Spiritual 44yr old female, enjoy gardening, cooking and walks on the beach, WLTm a warm, loving and caring male for friendship, maybe a LTR. Box 444803

SOUND GOOD?

Hi I'm Lynne 46, 5ft4, dark hair/eyes, love reading/writing, going out, astrology, cars; seeking honest, caring, outgoing guy to enjoy music, fun, friendship and more! Box 449186

IT'S WHAT YOU MAKE OF IT!

44yr old female, blonde hair, 5ft5, slim, easygoing, enjoy many things in life, looking for someone similar out there to enjoy life with! Box 436810

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?

Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366

MAYBE YOU'RE THE ONE?

Hi I'm Mandi, chocolate brown hair, blue eyes, 48, seeking human male (preferably) for nights out, socialising, clubbing, meals, lots of laughs and much more. Box 437489

BE MY FRIEND AND LOVER

Bubbly, caring lady, 47, divorced with 2 teenagers, dark hair, medium build, into cooking, driving, love to talk, laugh and have fun, seeking a normal guy Box 425952

LAUGHTER, THE BEST MEDICINE

Help me write my stand-up comedy routine! I'm 49, you'll need to make me laugh out loud and understand observational comedy to make the grade. Box 892640

JUST IMAGINE

Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easy-going single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLTm genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562

SOMEBODY TO LAUGH WITH...

Loving lady looking for companionship, 36, 5ft3, medium build, brown hair/eyes, loves dancing, walks and animals; seeks similar male with great SOH for lasting happiness. Box 446382

60S ROCKERS

Looking for a positive, forward-looking man. I'm 64, slim, 5ft8, attractive, with a good attitude and various interests. Maidstone. Box 451429

Women seeking women

FUN AND MAYBE MORE

Hi I'm 37, now to town and would love to meet some genuine companions to socialise with and go out and have some fun. Box 880564

HOMELY SORT

Hello there, I'm looking for a kind, gentle partner, a homely woman, with GSOH. I'm female, 56 and enjoy cinema, reading, antiques, gardening, music. Box 451409

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ENTERTAIN ME

Female, 50, medium build, blonde, quite short, seeking tall, confident, sensual guy for regular wining, dining, loving and laughter, must be honest, genuine and loving. Box 438854

BE MY GUY

Young 50s lady, slim, 5ft4, fair hair, a smoker, loves music, going out, cooking, gardening, seeking similar loving, caring, honest... Box 449286

HERE AND NOW

Outgoing lady, 50, enjoys walks along the beach, nights out and in with a quiet bottle of wine, seeks man to love forever. Box 449524

CARING & PROFESSIONAL

Female 49, 5ft4, long hair, slim, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 48-55. Box 417100

THE REAL THING

Really bubbly lady, 52, brown hair blue eyes, 5ft7, medium build, likes travel, walks, documentaries, films, seeking male with GSOH for fun-loving relationship. Box 451255

YOU DON'T KNOW UNTIL YOU CALL...

Young looking, hard working 53yr old living in East Sussex, I am a happy, caring person with GSOH. Non-smoker. Heathfield. Box 883410

TAKE MY BREATH AWAY

Young at heart lady, 56, enjoys travel, holiday, swimming, sport, days in/out, seeks solvent, attractive gent of similar age. Folkestone Box 451388

SMART MOVE

Spontaneous, friendly, lively female, 55, likes cinema, walks, cooking, socialising, seeks similar person for friendship/more. Box 430854

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS!

Smart petite lady, 56, 5ft4, tall, blonde hair, green eyes, likes restaurants, theatre, cinema, travel abroad; seeking happy guy with similar interests. Box 448785

NO SHALLOWNESS

Intelligent lady, 55, 5ft8, large build, looking for a nice, genuine male who enjoys theatre, meals, laughter, music, relaxing and good conversation. Box 444145

A COMPANION FOR LIFE?

Blonde lady, 56, 5ft5, medium build, attractive, devoted mum, ready to start dating again and seeking male who loves travel, theatre, walks, cinema and more. Box 448449

HOLDING OUT FOR A HERO

Londoner new to the area, 57, 5ft5, slim attractive blonde, seeking a man for serious relationship and lasting happiness. Box 449587

WALKS ALONG THE COAST

Honest & sincere female, 58, tall, GSOH, loves country pubs, coasts, cinema, seeking a man who's a match for me with GSOH for relationship. Box 441622

I HAVE A DREAM

Blonde, bubbly curly female, 59, looks younger, fun to be with, honest, seeks caring male to be my soul-mate. GSOH. Box 883891

HAPPY AS ME

Fun-to-be-with, happy, contented lady, 60, 5ft4, I enjoy theatre, dining out and having friends round for a meal, gardening, pets. Box 882812

THE GOOD THINGS IN LIFE

53yr old young-at-heart, loving woman, I am hoping to meet a kind-spirited spirit who loves animals, going for walks and the romantic side of life. Box 900143

SOMEBODY TO LAUGH WITH...

Loving lady looking for companionship, 36, 5ft3, medium build, brown hair/eyes, loves dancing, walks and animals; seeks similar male with great SOH for lasting happiness. Box 446382

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Hello there, I'm looking for a kind, gentle partner, a homely woman, with GSOH. I'm female, 56 and enjoy cinema, reading, antiques, gardening, music. Box 451409



MEN seeking women

NOTHING TO LOSE

Laid back, attractive single dad, 35, 5ft7, brown eyes, medium build, looking for someone similar to enjoy films, socialising and hopefully love... Box 451286

TRY ME

Down-to-earth, laid back guy, a father of 2, 5ft7, 35, brown eyes, shaved head, I enjoy eating out, swimming, films and family time. Box 451418

AS SOON AS YOU CAN

Caring romantic guy, 35, GSOH, likes going out with friends, long walks, reading, music, films and more, WLTm caring female for friendship leading to LTR. Box 880813

EXPERIENCE MATTERS

Down-to-earth sincere and intelligent guy, 36, looking for mature lady for friendship and possible relationship. Box 451231

CAN YOU PUT UP WITH ME?

Hi all I'm 37, 6ft, blue eyes, brown hair and medium build, great cook and SOH, seeking similar lady to take out. Box 451503

EVERYTHING I DO



PROPERTY NEWS

Gloom hasn't lifted says builders' survey

THE latest State of Trade Survey from the Federation of Master Builders makes for gloomy reading.

It reports that a total of 73 per cent of small building firms have seen a decline in workloads. A further 66 per cent reported a decline for the commercial property sector in the first quarter of 2009. Although morale was reported to be poor with builders' expectations at a low level, there was one note of cheer.

In the non-residential public sector some 14 per cent of FMB builders saw their workloads increase.

Richard Diment, director-general of the FMB, said: "Given the weak economic outlook, the negative workload responses from FMB builders are hardly surprising as this general gloom surrounding the UK's future economic prospects convinces many companies to put expansions, moves, and new office building on hold for the foreseeable future."

The survey indicated there may be a slowing in the rate of decline in private housing, public non-residential new build, and public non-residential repair and maintenance.

Ways to help people up the property ladder

WARD Homes has reported a strong sales performance in the first three months of the year, adding to hopes that the worst of the economic downturn has passed.

The company has already sold 79 homes in 2009. The company says its success is down to competitive prices and deals to suit all kinds of buyers.

All but 10 homes have now been sold at Kings Hill, near West Malling, and just seven homes remain in the current phase at Eden Village, Sittingbourne.

Throughout the region, properties are selling at a rate of nearly two per week.

"We have seen a strong performance in terms of the number of homes sold and visitors to our sites in the last few months as more and more people realise that now could be the time to buy," said Tim Nabbs, sales director at Ward Homes.

"We have a number of ways to help our customers move up the property ladder.

"If you're a first time buyer you could move in for just 70 per cent of the price under the HomeBuy Direct scheme, which we operate in conjunction with the Government's Homes and Communities Agency."



Housing market shows signs of revival for buyers but not sellers

■ BY NICK AMES

BUYERS have been returning to the property market during the spring, according to a new survey.

The National Association of Estate Agents has seen a small increase in house sales.

This follows reports this week from the Council of Mortgage Lenders and HM Revenue & Customs who said lending and agreed sales were on the up.

However, the association has said the Chancellor Alistair Darling missed an opportunity to help the housing market in the Budget.

Signs the market was bottoming out have been approached cautiously in recent weeks, with experts warning the housing market is still in a fragile state.

However, the association research found the number of house hunters registering with estate agents was up 12 per cent, with the number of agreed sales per agent increased from eight to nine, from February to March.

The average house price, however, was 6.38 per cent lower than the actual asking price, although this appears to have drawn first-time buyers back into the market.

Association member Richard Copus said: "The market has definitely been showing signs of a revival in March. But like the weather, it is likely to be changeable and must be treated with caution."

Experts said the increased sales per agent were "the largest average figure for more than a year and a great source of optimism for the industry", with the number of house hunters at their highest levels for a year, indicating home buyer confidence was returning. However, the story for sellers was somewhat more pes-



SELLING UP: Experts warn the market is still in a fragile state despite a reported increase in the number of house hunters

simistic, with the average number of properties on estate agents books falling from 74 in February to 67 in March.

An association spokesman said: "This is a potentially worrying indicator, as it suggests that sellers are not confident of getting the best possible price for their property."

"It is likely to reflect a view that the period of consistent house price falls is coming to an end - meaning those with property to sell feel it might better serve their interests to delay for a number of months and try to catch an upturn."

Lee Bramzell, chief executive of PropertyIndex.com, said: "Over

recent months we have seen a steady trickle of positive news from across the housing industry, suggesting that buyers really are being tempted back into the market."

"While we still have a long way to go before we return to strong house price growth I believe the tide is beginning to turn."

"Many buyers now believe that the bottom of the market is approaching and as a result, they are starting to take action to ensure they don't miss out."

The association earlier said Mr Darling should have done more to help first time buyers returning to the market, and that his extension on the Stamp Duty threshold

will do little to encourage them to buy their first home.

Chris Brown, president said: "This is a token gesture that will be presented as a benefit to first-time buyers but is in reality irrelevant to two thirds of them."

"Our figures show that first-time buyers came back to the market in droves in January, making up 25 per cent of sales."

"The figure has only dipped slightly since then and in March was 23 per cent. The Chancellor's measures will do little to consolidate that resurgence in interest."

"If the number falls again next month then we will know that confidence is dropping in the wake of a botched Budget."



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- One Double Bedrooms
- 24 Hour Care
- Parking, Allocated Parking



Ramsgate £119,995

- Two Bedrooms, No Forward Chain!!!
- Fitted Kitchen, Garage, Driveway
- Rear Garden, Freehold
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing



Margate £119,995

- TLC Requ, DG, Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen/diner, Close To Schools
- Close To QEQM Hospital
- Must View!!!



Ramsgate £124,995

- 2 Bedrooms, GCH/DG
- Modern Bathroom, OSP
- Modern Fitted Kitchen
- No Forward Chain!!! Rear Garden



Margate £129,995

- 2 Bedrooms, 2 Reception Rooms
- Modern Fitted Kitchen, GCH
- DG, 35ft Rear Garden
- Popular Location, Must Be Viewed!!



Ramsgate £134,995

- Three Bedrooms, Fitted Kitchen
- GCH, 25 Foot Lounge/diner, DG
- Lovely Bathroom, Must Be Seen!
- Enclosed Rear Garden



Ramsgate £159,995

- 3 Double Bedrooms, Chain Free
- 26ft Lounge / Diner, D/S Shower
- DSCR, DG, Central Heating
- Garage, OSP, Popular Cul-de-sac



Birchington £169,995

- Three Bedroom, Cellar
- 22ft Lounge, 18ft Kitchen
- No Forward Chain
- Vacant Possession



St Peters £199,995


- 4 Bedrooms, 2 Receptions
- Period Features, CH
- Enclosed Rear Garden, OSP
- Sought After Location, Must See!!!



Birchington £224,995

- 3 Beds Plus Loft Room
- D/S Shower Room
- 17ft Kitchen / Diner
- 50ft Rear Garden, Extended Semi!!

The Darling Buds of May!



Reports have stated that the average house price has risen for the 3rd consecutive month!

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Birchington
01843 847999

Cliftonville
01843 230430

Ramsgate
01843 851777



Ramsgate OIEO £149,995

- 3 Double Bedrooms, Double Glazing
- 19ft Kitchen/Diner, Central Heating
- Off Street Parking, Garage
- Approx 55ft Garden, Must View!!!



Ramsgate £164,995

- Three Bedrooms, Master En-suite
- Modern Fitted Kitchen, OSP
- Garage, Conservatory, GCH
- Double Glazing, Must Be Viewed!!!!



Ramsgate OIRO £179,995

- 2 Dbl Beds, GCH & DG
- Lounge/diner, Fitted Kitchen
- Long Driveway, Must Be Viewed!
- Enclosed Rear Garden



Ramsgate £214,995

- 3-4 Bedrooms, 2-3 Receptions
- Period Features, No Forward Chain
- Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom
- Garage, Must View!!!



Broadstairs £249,995

- You Won't Be Disappointed!!
- 3 Bedroom, One Reception, GFCH
- Modern Kitchen, D/glazed
- 70ft Rear Garden! Must Be Viewed!



Ramsgate £279,995

- No Chain, GCH, Original Features
- 6 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms
- 500m To Seafront
- Kitchen/diner, Must See!!!



Westgate £324,995

- 6 Bedrooms, 2 Reception, GCH
- Newly Fitted Kitchen, Original Features
- Bathroom And Shower Room,
- Conservatory, Rear Garden



Westbrook £419,995

- 4 Double Bedrooms, Master En-suite
- 4 Reception Areas, OSP For 3-4 Cars
- Double Length Garage, Must View!
- Sought After Location, 50M To Sea Front

Lovetts

Property Services

www.lovett.co.uk

**Broadstairs
Office
01843
861455**

**Birchington
Office
01843
848382**

**Cliftonville
Office
01843
230960**

**Ramsgate
Office
01843
570305**

Broadstairs



- Period Terraced House
- 4 Bedrooms, En-suite Facilities
- Courtyard Garden

£254,995

Broadstairs



- Detached Bungalow, 2-3 Bedrooms
- En-suite facilities
- Pleasant Gardens

£289,000

Broadstairs



- Semi Detached House
- 4 Bedrooms, 3 Receptions
- Ideal Family Home

£278,950

Broadstairs



- Detached Bungalow
- Sought After Location
- Garage, 3 Bedrooms

£275,000

Broadstairs



- Flat, 1 Bedroom
- View to Stone Bay
- Good Decorative Order

£97,500

Broadstairs



- Terraced Cottage
- 3 Bedrooms
- Some redecoration required

£145,000

Broadstairs



- Semi Detached Bungalow
- 2 Bedrooms, OSP
- Full Width Conservatory

£210,000

Broadstairs



- Cottage
- 2 Bedrooms
- Refurbished, Cellar

£225,000

Broadstairs



- Detached Bungalow
- 2 Bedrooms, Garage
- Cul de sac location

£228,000

Minnis Bay



- 4 Bedrooms, Modern Kitchen
- Modern Bathroom
- South Facing Garden

£239,950

Westgate



- 1st Floor Flat
- 3 Bedrooms
- Garage, No Chain

£119,950

Westbrook



- 5 Bedrooms 3 Recps
- Detached Garage With Potential (STP)
- Large Garden, Balcony

£485,000

Westgate



- First Floor Flat
- 1 Bedroom, No Onward Chain
- Good Decorative Order

£69,995

Minnis Bay



- 2 Bedrooms
- Garage & Drive
- Conservatory, Modern Kitchen

£165,000

Westbrook



- 3 Bedrooms, Annexe
- Sought After Location
- Secluded Rear Garden

£279,950

Birchington



- 3 Bedrooms, Ensuite
- Recently Refurbished
- High Specification

£275,000

Birchington



- 3 Bedrooms, Corner Plot
- Sought After Location
- Attractive Gardens

£355,000

Minnis Bay



- 4 Bedrooms, Sea Views
- En Suite Facilities
- Conservatory

£ 325,000

Cliftonville



- 3 Bedrooms, 3 Receptions
- Tandem Garage & Driveway
- Planning Approved for 2 Storey Extension

£269,995

Cliftonville



- 1 Bedroom, Lower GF Flat
- Own Private Entrance
- Own Private Courtyard Garden

£97,500

Margate



- 2 Bedrooms, Stylish Interior
- Original Fireplaces
- Enclosed Rear Garden & Patio Area

£132,000

Cliftonville



- 4 Bedrooms, Stunning Interior
- 26ft Long Kitchen/Diner
- Sought After Location

£425,000

Margate



- 3 Bedrooms, Possible OSP
- Close to Hospital
- Vacant Possession

£130,950

Cliftonville



- 1 Bedroom First Floor Flat
- Guest Suite
- Secure Parking

£134,995

Westbrook



- 3 Bedrooms, 2 Receptions
- Single Garage & Driveway
- Vacant Possession

£199,950

Palm Bay



- 3 Bedrooms, Conservatory
- Well Maintained Gardens
- Garage & Driveway

£230,000

Cliftonville



- 3 Bedrooms, 2 Receptions
- Spacious Design
- Garage & Drive at Rear

£279,950

Ramsgate



- 3 Bedrooms 2 Receptions
- Conservatory, Newly Fitted Kitchen
- Fully Refurbished

£145,000

Ramsgate



- 2 Bedrooms 2 Receptions
- Semi Detached, Drive way
- NO CHAIN !, Bargain of the week

£137,000

Ramsgate



- 2 Bedrooms 1 Reception
- Apartment, Balcony
- Sea Views, Pegwell Area

£125,000

Ramsgate



- 4 Bedrooms, 2 Reception rooms
- Detached, Stunning conservatory
- Drive, 200ft rear garden

£270,000

Ramsgate



- 2 Bedroom, 2 Receptions
- Extended Semi detached
- Off street parking possible

£127,500

Ramsgate



- 3 Large Bedrooms, Large Reception
- Semi Detached, New fitted kitchen
- Garage&Drive, Sort After Location

£164,995

Ramsgate



- 3 bedrooms, 3 receptions
- 200ft rear garden, Cul-de-sac location
- Drive, Large Kitchen and utility

£255,000

Ramsgate



- 4 Bedrooms, 3 receptions
- Detached (Designer home) Luxury finish
- Landscaped Gardens, Detached Double garage

£399,995

Ramsgate



- 3 Bedrooms, 1 Reception
- Garage, Fully refurbished
- Cliffs end location, Large rear garden

£224,000

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westgatesales@regal-estates.co.uk

www.regalthanet.co.uk



Westgate £145,000

- 3 Bedroom Cottage
- 2 Separate Receptions
- Refurbished Kitchen and Bathroom
- Lovely Rear Garden (approx 90 ft)



Birchington £99,995

- 1 Bedroom Ground Floor
- Recently Refurbished
- Lovely Outlook
- Allocated Parking



Westgate £125,000

- 2 Bedroom Garden Flat
- Excellent Order Throughout
- 10% Deposit paid by vendor
- All legal fees paid



Westgate £159,995

- 2 Bedroom First floor Apartment
- 25% interest free loan available
- Allocated Parking & Entry Phone
- Sea views from lounge & bedroom



Minster £199,950

- Detached period cottage
- Garden & Off-Road Parking
- Absolutely Charming
- MUST BE SOLD!



Monkton £214,995

- 3 Bedroom Period Property
- Modern Kitchen & Bathroom
- En-suite to Master Bedroom
- Garage & Gardens



Broadstairs £99,995

- Beautiful top floor Apartment
- Luxury Kitchen & Bathroom
- Central Broadstairs
- Lilybrook conversion



Margate £129,950

- 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached House
- Pleasant Rear Garden
- Well Proportioned Accommodation
- Ideal Investment or Family home.



Westgate £99,995

- Top Floor 1 Bedroom
- Luxury Kitchen & Shower room
- Converted by Lilybrook
- Great location by the sea



Broadstairs £110,000

- 2 Bedroom Ground Floor Flat
- Off-Road Parking
- In need of Modernisation
- Ideal Investment/1st Time Buyer



Westgate £235,000

- 4 Bedroom Detached House
- 3 Reception Rooms
- 2 Bathrooms
- NO ONWARD CHAIN



Westgate £229,950

- 3 Bedroom Town House
- Stunning Kitchen/Diner, 2 En-suite Bedrooms
- Garage
- 10 year Guarantee, Ask about Part Exchange



Westgate £199,950

- 2 Bedroom 2nd Floor Apartment
- En-suite Bathroom & Separate Shower Room
- Garage & Swimming Pool
- Beautiful Sea Views



Westbrook £179,995

- Extended 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached House
- Impressive Reception Rooms
- Nice Garden & Off-road parking
- Sought after location



Broadstairs £159,995

- 3rd Floor Flat
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- Gated Parking
- Sea Views



Birchington £359,950

- 4 Bedroom Detached House
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- 2 Reception Rooms & Conservatory
- Garden & Garage



Westbrook £112,500

- A terrific 2 Bedroom Apartment
- Luxury Kitchen & Bathroom
- Converted by Lilybrook
- Close to the Sea



Westgate £249,995

- 5 Bedroom Victorian Stunner!
- 2-3 Reception Rooms
- 2 Bathrooms
- Garden & Garage



Westbrook OIEO £140,000

- Investment Property
- 4 Bedsits
- Potential £17,680 pa
- Needs Updating



Westgate £149,995

- 2 Double Bedroom Semi-Det Bungalow
- New D/G Doors & Windows
- Garage & Long Drive
- Cul-de-sac Location

Ward & Partners

To view all our homes:
wardandpartners.co.uk



Broadstairs | £475,000-£525,000

- 6 Bedroom Victorian Period Property
- 3 Reception Rooms, Shower and Bathroom
- Double Garage, No Chain

BROADSTAIRS OFFICE | 01843 602546



Ramsgate | £275,000-£305,000

- Semi-detached Listed Barn Conversion
- 3 Bedrooms, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Garden
- Parking-Must be Seen! Bathroom/Shower Room

RAMSGATE OFFICE | 01843 580314



Cliffsend | £245,000

- Detached Chalet style Bungalow, Family Bathroom
- 3 Bedrooms plus en-suite Bathroom
- Open Plan Kitchen/Diner, Front & Rear Gardens

RAMSGATE OFFICE | 01843 580314



Ramsgate | £240,000-£270,000

- 4-5 Bedroom Victorian Terrace
- 3 Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom
- Shower Room, Enclosed Rear Garden

RAMSGATE OFFICE | 01843 580314

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Property Prices



GREEN SHOOTS

ARE appearing in the
PROPERTY MARKET!



Cliftonville | £225,000-£265,000

- 6 Bed semi with 20ft storage facility &
- 18ft office/studio, 4 en suites
- 4 receptions & conservatory

CLIFTONVILLE OFFICE | 01843 227447



Cliftonville | £255,000

- 4 bedroom detached bungalow
- Tastefully decorated & luxurious interior
- Corner plot, double drive to double garage

CLIFTONVILLE OFFICE | 01843 227447



Westbrook | £220,000-£250,000

- 4 bedroom semi detached residence
- In need of updating and modernising
- 2 receptions, 300m from seafront area

BIRCHINGTON OFFICE | 01843 842551



Westgate On Sea | £195,000-£220,000

- Two bedroom ground floor apartment
- Opposite Westgate sea front, open plan living area
- Master ensuite, allocated parking

BIRCHINGTON OFFICE | 01843 842551



Broadstairs | £170,000-£190,000

- 3 Bedroom Semi Detached,
- Detached Garage,
- No Forward Chain,

BROADSTAIRS OFFICE | 01843 602546



Birchington: 01843 842551

Cliftonville: 01843 227447

Broadstairs: 01843 602546

Ramsgate: 01843 580314

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**Manston £715,000**

- 4 bedroom Grade II listed barn conversion
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- Standing in approximately 1 acre

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Kent CT7 9RE**

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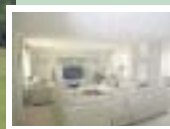
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Chestfield £825,000

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- Main Bed with Sitting Room, En Suite, Dressing Room+Balcony
- Large Secluded & Southerly Facing Rear Garden
- Exclusive Village Location Close To Golf Course

**Birchington £129,950**

2 double bedroom apartment with Juliette balcony 26' Lounge/Diner, DG. Approx. 300m from Grenham Bay cliffs and beach.

**Westgate £154,995**

3 bedroom family home with sun lounge in a cul de sac position. Garage & drive. Enclosed rear garden. No chain.

**Westbrook £196,995**

1930's style 3 bed semi-detached family home which has recently undergone complete refurbishment. No chain.

**Birchington £89,995**

1 bedroom purpose built retirement flat with house manager and lift to all floors. Residents parking. No forward Chain.

**Minnis Bay £595,000**

High specification detached four bedroom sea front house. 2 En Suites, 3 Reception Rooms and Study. Rural views to rear and sea views to front.

**Cliftonville £199,995**

Luxury 2 bedroom first floor apartment with direct sea views located within easy reach of all amenities. No forward chain.

**Margate £72,500**

One bedroom ground floor flat with Private rear yard. Gas central heating. Conveniently situated for Town centre.

**Margate £129,995**

Stunning 2 double bedroom ground floor flat with en-suite to master, 29' lounge/diner, designer open plan kitchen + off road parking.

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tie-ins



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hours

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RAMSGATE £225,000

- Put on Market 16.01.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 16.01.2009

SOLD
STC

GARLIDGE £144,995

- Put on Market 24.02.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 04.03.2009

SOLD
STC

DUMPTON £99,995

- Put on Market 20.02.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 21.02.2009

SOLD
STC

RAMSGATE £105,000

- Put on Market 11.01.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 13.01.2009

SOLD
STC

RAMSGATE £109,995

- Put on Market 09.02.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 12.02.2009

SOLD
STC

RAMSGATE £124,995

- Put on Market 14.02.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 18.02.2009

SOLD
STC

ST NICHOLAS-AT-WADE £139,995

- Put on Market 29.01.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 02.02.2009

SOLD
STC

KINGSGATE £169,995

- Put on Market 22.01.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 28.01.2009

SOLD
STC

RAMSGATE £49,995

- Put on Market 13.02.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 20.02.2009

SOLD
STC

CLIFFSEND £135,000

- Put on Market 24.01.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 07.02.2009

SOLD
STC

RAMSGATE £299,995

- Put on Market 09.01.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 11.01.2009

SOLD
STC

WESTGATE £249,995

- Put on Market 09.02.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 19.02.2009

SOLD
STC

WESTGATE £129,995

- Put on Market 27.01.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 06.02.2009

SOLD
STC

RAMSGATE £239,995

- Put on Market 28.01.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 12.02.2009

SOLD
STC

RAMSGATE £162,500

- Put on Market 31.01.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 13.02.2009

SOLD
STC

MARGATE £124,995

- Put on Market 08.01.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 26.01.2009

SOLD
STC

ST PETERS £249,995

- Put on Market 06.03.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 13.03.2009

SOLD
STC

RAMSGATE £125,000

- Put on Market 28.01.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 26.02.2009

SOLD
STC

RAMSGATE £154,950

- Put on Market 11.01.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 01.02.2009

SOLD
STC

ST PETERS £139,995

- Put on Market 31.01.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 27.02.2009

SOLD
STC

RAMSGATE £129,995

- Put on Market 24.02.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 03.03.2009

SOLD
STC

BROADSTAIRS £228,000

- Put on Market 06.02.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 03.03.2009

SOLD
STC

PALM BAY £174,995

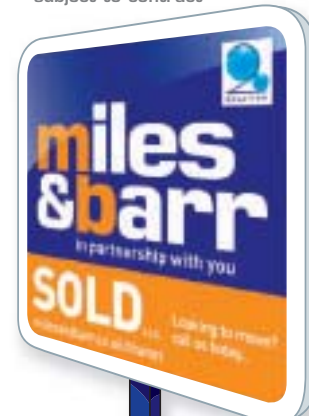
- Put on Market 19.02.2009
- SOLD S.T.C.** 05.03.2009

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MARGATE £99,995

- Put on Market 07.02.09
- SOLD S.T.C.** 11.03.09

*subject to contract



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a week**BROADSTAIRS** £245,000

- 3 bed, 24' living room
- Fitted kitchen, conservatory
- CUL-DE-SAC SETTING

**BIRCHINGTON** £289,995

- 5 Bedroom Detached Home
- Large & Modern Kitch/Diner
- Shower Room & Bathroom

**WESTBROOK** £249,995

- 4 Bedrooms & 2 Bathrooms
- Detached garage
- Corner Plot

**RAMSGATE** £167,500

- 3 Bedroom Semi-detached
- Driveway & Garage
- Lounge/diner & Kitchen/diner

**RAMSGATE** £239,995

- Three bedroom detached residence
- Off street parking and garage
- No onward chain

**RAMSGATE** £124,995

- Three Bedrooms
- 25ft lounge/diner
- Central heated

**RAMSGATE** £199,995

- Semi rural location
- three bedrooms and conservatory
- Central heated and double glazed

**RAMSGATE** £134,995

- Investment opportunity
- Three storey building
- Plus building plot

**BROADSTAIRS** £174,995

- 3 Storey Georgian House
- 2/3 Bedrooms, Large Courtyard
- Sought After Central Village Location

**MARGATE** £149,995

- 2 Bedroom House
- 16ft Lounge, Dining Area
- Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, Gardens and Garage

**BROADSTAIRS** REDUCED TO £205,000

- Detached Bugalow
- Deceptively Spacious
- No Chain

**BROADSTAIRS** £210,000

- 3 double bedrooms
- 29' lounge/diner
- 70' rear garden / off street parking

**BROADSTAIRS** £175,000

- 4 bed family home
- Central location
- 3 receptions

**BROADSTAIRS** REDUCED TO £175,000

- IMMACULATE 2 BED HOME
- CENTRAL LOCATION
- PARKING AND GARDENS

**MONKTON** £189,995

- Superb Bungalow with large plot
- High Standard decor
- Recently Refurbished

**RAMSGATE** £299,995

- Splendid Detached Residence
- Rural Views
- Large established gardens

**RAMSGATE** REDUCED TO £365,000

- Large 4 bed Detached
- Good Size Plot
- Sought After Location

**RAMSGATE** £380,000

- Three bedroom detached bungalow
- Sea views
- Highly sought after location

**RAMSGATE** £124,995

- Three bedrooms
- 23'7 x 14'11 Lounge / Diner
- Close to station and town centre

**RAMSGATE** £157,500

- Two bedrooms
- Semi detached bungalow
- Off street parking

**MARGATE** £255,000

- Four Bedrooms/Three Receptions
- Detached Family Home
- Conservatory/Large Garden/OSP

**BIRCHINGTON** £229,995

- Three/Four Double Beds
- Detached House
- Stunning Views

**MARGATE** £209,995

- Large Victorian Home
- 4 Beds/2 Receptions
- Off Street Parking

**WESTGATE ON SEA** £119,995

- THREE BED STARTER HOME
- OFF-STREET PARKING
- SUDG GFCH & NO CHAIN

**WESTGATE-ON-SEA** £315,000

- Property with an ANNEXE
- 5 Beds & 1 Bed Annexe
- Corner Plot, Detached Garage

**BIRCHINGTON** £499,995

- Substantial Family Home
- 4 Beds & 3 Reception Rooms
- Osp and large garage

**MARGATE** £54,995

- Spacious 2 Bed Apartment
- Sea Views
- VACANT POSSESSION

**MARGATE** REDUCED TO £150,000

- Spacious 4 bedrooms
- Generous living space
- Good condition throughout

**MARGATE** REDUCED TO £164,995

- Substantial 3 Bedroom Home
- 3 Reception Rooms!
- Excellent order throughout!

**RAMSGATE** £154,995

- Spacious Semi Detached Home
- 3 Double Bedrooms + En-suite
- No Chain Involved

**RAMSGATE** £148,995

- Chalet style
- Semi-detached
- 3 Bedrooms

**RAMSGATE** £94,995

- Two Bedrooms Apartment
- Rear Garden
- No Chain

**BROADSTAIRS** £179,995

- 2 Bed, 2 Receptions
- Central Broadstairs
- No Chain Ahead

**RAMSGATE** £126,500

- Grade II Listed Home
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- 80' Garden & No Chain

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**Broadstairs**

4 bedroom family house in
enviable position
£449,995

**RAMSGATE**

Detached Bungalow, Two Bedrooms, Fitted
Kitchen/Diner, Off Street Parking
£162,500

**Ramsgate**

4 bedroom house with rural surroundings
overlooking Pegwell Bay
£385,000

**RAMSGATE**

Three bedroom terrace, two receptions,
double glazing where stated
£159,995

**Broadstairs**

4 bedroom bungalow in
a sought after location
£389,995



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RAMSGATE

£650PCM


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- Four Bedrooms
- Large Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen

LETTINGS

BROADSTAIRS £850PCM


broadstairs@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9715
 • Three bedrooms • Gated location
 • Garage • Available now

BROADSTAIRS £700PCM


broadstairs@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9715
 • Two bedrooms • Gated location
 • Close to sea • View now

BROADSTAIRS £795PCM


broadstairs@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9715
 • Wimpey house • Three bedrooms
 • Fully re-furnished • Garage & gardens

BROADSTAIRS £500PCM


broadstairs@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9715
 • Two bedrooms • Seafront location
 • Split level • Nice order

BROADSTAIRS £595PCM


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- Good size gardens, View now

.....£249,995



Birchington

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- Off street parking
- En-Suite

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Westbrook

- A lot bigger inside that you'd think!
- 3 good size bedrooms, lounge & a conservatory
- Sunny gardens, garage & parking

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- Central to village amenities & beach
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Birchington

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- Offering NO CHAIN

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Birchington

- Detached bungalow
- 3 Bedrooms 2 reception rooms & corner plot
- No onward chain, viewings available

.....£199,995



Palm Bay

- Offers Invited, Detached Bungalow
- Three Bed's, Master with En-suite
- Enclosed Rear Garden, ORP

.....£189,950



Birchington

- 2 bedroom detached bungalow
- Pleasant Gardens front & rear plus Garage
- View now too see the size

.....OIRO £179,995



Margate

- An absolute gem!
- Beautifully presented 3 bed family home with 2 receptions
- Very spacious accommodation plus gardens & garage

.....£169,950



St Peters

- Terrific value for money!
- 3 beds home with garage
- Very sunny gardens to the rear

.....£155,950



Margate

- Get your skates on.....!
- Large 4 bed semi with 2 receptions & 2 bathrooms
- Distant views across Dane Park - NO CHAIN!

.....£149,995



Margate

- 3 bed semi detached home
- Conservatory
- Kitchen/diner

.....£149,950



Minnis Bay

- Individual 3 storey home. Close to the sea front.
- 3 bedrooms. Family bathroom plus shower room.
- Lounge on the first floor. Garage, ORP.

.....£185,000



Broadstairs

- Terrific well proportioned 1 bed retirement flat
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- Close to local shops - no chain!

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Margate

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- Central Location
- No Onward Chain

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- NO ADMIN FEES

From.....£550pcm

Westbrook Gardens, Westbrook



- Selection of 2 bedroom apartments
- Integrated appliances
- NO ADMIN FEES

From.....£550pcm

St Lukes Avenue, Ramsgate



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- DSS accepted with a suitable guarantor

From.....£650pcm

Central Road, Ramsgate



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- Great location
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From.....£500pcm

Grosvenor Place, Margate



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From.....£550pcm

Grosvenor Place, Margate



- Large 2 bedroom apartment
- Integrated appliances
- Modern kitchen/bathroom

From.....£550pcm

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Ramsgate **£725 pcm**

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- Off Road Parking
- Large Rear Garden
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MOTORS NEWS



Scrappage scheme dream deal options

ONE benefit of the Budget's £2,000 scrap-page scheme is the decent discounts never available before on certain cars.

Nowhere is this more obvious than on BMW and Mini (pictured) models and there are even offers over and above the Government scheme.

Someone keen to upgrade to a new BMW, for instance, could get a 116i Sport for £242 a month, with zero deposit and immediately save money through the car's eco-friendly EfficientDynamics technology – on top of a total discount/grant of £3,260.



'Optimal Auris' brings more go and less gas

MOST manufacturers offer eco versions of key models, but Toyota is 'greening' whole car ranges after dismantling the internal combustion engine and re-assembling it in new 'Optimal Drive' powertrains.

These save money and the conscience with apparently contradictory benefits: more power plus better economy with lower CO2 emissions/road tax, and are now available in revised Auris family hatch models (from £12,900).

The UK-built 131bhp 1.6-litre petrol option offers nine per cent better economy, eight per cent lower CO2 emissions and six per cent than before.



Octavia troupers stage comeback

HAVING upgraded mainstream Octavia versions in late 2008, Skoda has unveiled sporty vRS and rugged Scout facelifts.

The vRS option has been a huge success for the VW-owned Czech brand; 70 per cent have sold in the estate format as a cut-price performance load lugger to rival BMW and Audi's finest.

The Scout, with its rough and tough adds-ons, 4x4 and high-riding stance, has also been popular with those needing some go anywhere ability without big off-roader bodywork. Prices are to be confirmed.



IMPROVEMENT: The Hyundai i10 was launched with a 1.1 litre engine – that has now been replaced by a livelier and smoother 1.2 litre unit which takes the car to another level

Hyundai i10 catches up thanks to engine upgrade

ROAD TEST HYUNDAI i10

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

Head and legroom for all and comfort levels are good and this high-roof car can be crammed like a van when rear seats are folded.

Some textured trimming looks cheap though and the steering wheel feels low rent on Classic and Comfort spec; I would not normally advocate going for any top spec model, but a leather-covered wheel is just one luxury to recommend our flagship i10 Style test car (£8,195).

It costs £1,100 more than poverty spec Classic, but you get alloys, heated front seats, a storage tray beneath the passenger seat, an electric sun-roof and rear spoiler.

That's on top of generous standard kit including air-con and front electric windows, plus some thoughtful design.

The boot, for instance, is not only spacious for this class, but has two bins beneath the floor as well as a compartmentalised tray above the space saver spare wheel – plenty of stowage to capture those odds 'n' sods that accumulate.

It is a motoring package a long way from the Hyundai of five years ago, yet still has the famous five-year warranty and value for money that kept the brand in the game while catching up with European carmakers.



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Cars shown for illustration purposes only. Finance subject to status. †£35 road fund licence applies to Matiz 0.8 S. ††67.3mpg applies to Matiz 0.8 S.

Chevrolet range fuel consumption in mpg (L/100 km), urban 40.9 (6.9) to 26.4 (10.7), extra urban 67.3 (4.2) to 38.7 (7.3), combined 54.3 (5.2) to 32.8 (8.6) the official co2 emission is 119 to 225 g/km.



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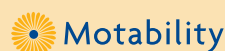
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GET REAL



USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

FIAT PANDA



FIAT'S baby was deservedly European Car of the Year in 2004. It shows that a space efficient interior does not have to go with a dull utilitarian exterior – the Panda could function as a van, but looks far more interesting. The distinctive five-door Italian is also fun to drive and cheap to tax, insure and fuel, yet features cutting-edge technology. A lively turbodiesel option – averaging 65+mpg – rugged 4x4 version and hot 100hp model add to the line-up's attractions.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

HYUNDAI GETZ



IT is ageing now, but the Getz signalled Hyundai's arrival on the European motor scene, with a thoroughly modern supermini. It does not excel in any area really, but neither does the Korean car fall short anywhere either. Available in three and five-door form with a five-year warranty, it also has some engines in road tax band-B, including an efficient diesel. Securing a good deal – with some warranty intact.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

FORD KA



THOUGH given the chop this year, the original Ka remains in demand as a used budget buy. The engines are geriatric, but dependable and the quirky-looking three-door city car/supermini makes a good, distinctive and affordable runabout. There are plenty on the market to choose from and if it has a fault, then it is that the distinctive styling tends to attract women buyers – and put off the blokes – but it drives well, being based on a previous Fiesta.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★



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CITROEN

C3, 1.1i Desire 5dr, l/v05rwl, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, insurance group:2, blue, 16453 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

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C-MAX, 2.0 Zetec 5dr Auto, ya07vbd, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, child locks, computer, driver airbag, foglights, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, seatback tables, side airbags, radio/cd, spoiler, rear headrests, tinted glass, blue, 6933 miles, £8995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi Zetec 5dr - NEW SHAPE, gk58vmc, metallic squeeze, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, heated screen, metallic paintwork, insurance group:4, green, 7000 miles, £10995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi LX 5dr [AC], l/v53lcf, metallic vitro, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, heated screen, leather seats, leather upholstery, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, black, 3629 miles, £14695, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 3dr [Climate], gk06pov, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:5, silver, 6754 miles, £6995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Freedom 3dr, gk07wmx, adjustable seats, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:4, blue, 16956 miles, £6995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Ghia 5dr - Leather, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:5, blue, 14077 miles, £9695, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

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FIESTA, 1.6 TDCi Zetec S 3dr, gk08ujd, abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, blue tooth, bluetooth voice control, foglights, locking wheel nuts, metallic paintwork, silver, 10873 miles, £8995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Ghia 5dr - LEATHER, wu58jno, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:5, red, 9757 miles, £9995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 TDCi Zetec S 3dr - STREET PACK, gk09ode, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, side skirts, spoiler, tinted glass, insurance group:4, red, 4000 miles, £12495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi Style (Climate) 5dr, nx58ood, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:5, black, 11168 miles, £8995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi Zetec 5dr - (Climate), ky58gxc, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:5, blue, 8439 miles, £9995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 3dr [Climate] **SPORTS+TECH PACK**, gj57ro, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:5, blue, 12203 miles, £7490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 5dr [Climate], gk07wie, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, electric heated door mirrors, heated front windscreen, insurance group:4, blue, 22643 miles, £6990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Ghia 5dr **FULL LEATHER**, bg08ckc, adjustable seats, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:5, blue, 20299 miles, £8990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Studio 3dr, ng08odu, central locking, driver airbag, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cassette, rear headrests, insurance group:3, blue, 12157 miles, £6990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Style 5dr [Climate], yf08ckg, adjustable seats, air conditioning, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, electric heated door mirrors, heated front windscreen, insurance group:5, blue, 14956 miles, £7990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 2.0 ST 3dr **FULL LEATHER TRIM**, gjs66cc, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:13, blue, 20173 miles, £8990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi Zetec 5dr [Climate], l/v06ve, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:6, silver, 23737 miles, £8495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 5dr [Climate]***SPORTS+TECH PACK***, od08kkl, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, electric heated door mirrors, heated front windscreen, insurance group:5, blue, 59622 miles, £6490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 5dr [Climate]***SPORTS+TECH PACK***, od08kkl, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, electric heated door mirrors, heated front windscreen, insurance group:4, black, 16609 miles, £8490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 5dr [Climate] ***ONLY 12918 MILES***, l/y06hwj, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, electric heated door mirrors, heated front windscreen, insurance group:5, silver, 12918 miles, £6890, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 5dr [Climate] ***ONLY 28337 MILES***, l/y05cx, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, climate pack, electric heated door mirrors, heated front windscreen, insurance group:3, silver, 28337 miles, £5990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Zetec S 3dr, ej08vsv, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, insurance group:7, silver, 11007 miles, £8990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Style 3dr, ad08xvw, adjustable seats, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:4, silver, 19302 miles, £7490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 3dr, gk54zth, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:4, silver, 42731 miles, £4995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec 5dr, na08xnz, air conditioning, alloy wheels, side airbags, radio/cd, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, remote locking, insurance group:7, grey, 19663 miles, £3495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 Sport S 5dr, gj07ycw, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:6, silver, 23737 miles, £8495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 2.0 Titanium 5dr - AUTO, gj56c2s, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, insurance group:10, blue, 13650 miles, £8495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec 5dr [Climate pack] - AUTO, gj56hvx, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, insurance group:6, blue, 33393 miles, £7995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec 3dr Auto**NEW SHAPE**ONLY 778 MILES**, l/v58vkc, air conditioning, alloy wheels, side airbags, radio/cd, power assisted steering, insurance group:7, black, 778 miles, £11990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

HONDA

CIVIC, 2.2i-CTDi Sport 5dr, oe56ewl, adjustable seats, alloy wheels, climate control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, front armrest, head restraints, headlight washers, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, traction control, insurance group:10, silver, 31000 miles, £10495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

JAZZ, 1.4i-DSi SE Sport 5dr CVT-7, gk53mup, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, electric windows, electric sunroof, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:3, green, 51500 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

HYUNDAI

GETZ, 1.1 GSi 3dr, gf05cwc, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric windows, immobiliser, passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering, insurance group:3, red, 40000 miles, £3495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

KIA

PICANTO, 1.1 LS 5dr, gj57cdu, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, central locking, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:3, red, 19323 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

MAZDA

BT-50, l/v08ymg, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, warranted mileage, silver, 3468 miles, £7999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

MERCEDES-BENZ

VITO, 111cdi xiong 2.2, ey04phz, panel van, mot-10-2009, electric windows, factory fitted bulk head, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, lwb, red, 57500 miles, £5990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

MITSUBISHI

COLT, 1.5 C2C3 2dr, gk09nwt, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, insurance group:7, orange, 100 miles, £10999, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.1 Mirage 3dr, gj55kyj, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:4, grey, 11675 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.3 C22 5dr **"Parking Sensors", gk58vyl, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, power assisted steering, rear headrests, cruise control, electric mirrors, locking wheel nuts, multi function steering wheel, remote locking, insurance group:5, saving of, black, 4000 miles, £8495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

i-CAR, 5dr Auto, gn08gzw, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti theft system, central locking, cloth upholstery,locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio, remote locking, tinted glass, insurance group:4, saving, silver, 500 miles, £7993, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

L200, 2.5TD Trojan Double Cab, r006hza, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, leather seats, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, power assisted steering, remote locking, black, 51000 miles, £7495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.8 GS3 4dr CVT, l/x08zrf, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, traction control, insurance group:8, saving, blue, 6800 miles, £12995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.6 Equipee 5dr Auto, gj57lyr, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:9, black, 15000 miles, £7995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

OUTLANDER, II 2.0 Di-DC Warrior 5dr, l/x57xsl, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, dvd, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, multi function steering wheel, power assisted steering, silver, 17300 miles, £15995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

107, 1.0 Sport XS 3dr, gj07lrv, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, driver airbag, electric windows, front armrest, head restraints, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, black, 9800 miles, £6995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

207, 1.4 Urban 3dr, gk57vxn, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, computer, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric windows, immobiliser, head restraints, passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering, rear headrests, remote locking, side airbags, insurance group:3, blue, 4587 miles, £6495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

RENAULT

CLIO, 1.2 16V Dynamique 3dr [AC], gj55ggy, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering, rear headrests, remote locking, side airbags, sports seats, sunroof, insurance group:3, silver, 14615 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

CLIO, 1.2 16V Campus Sport i-music 2007 3dr, af58lav, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, insurance group:3, blue, 16000 miles, £5495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

SUBARU

IMPREZA, 2.0 WRX AWD Turbo 4dr, ek54jvv, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, driver airbag, electric mirrors, head restraints, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, side airbags, radio/cd, sports seats, insurance group:20, blue, 31500 miles, £8995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

TOYOTA

YARIS, 1.0 VWT-i Colour Collection 3dr, l/v55xsl, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:2, silver, 26000 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL

ASTRA, 1.6i 16V SXi Digital 5dr, eo55hym, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, immobiliser, passenger airbag, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd multichanger, rear headrests, sports seats, insurance group:6, black, 23000 miles, £6995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

CORSA, 1.4i 16V SXi 5dr Auto [AC], vn07ons, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, driver airbag, power assisted steering, rear headrests, remote locking, side airbags, sports seats, insurance group:4, black, 15000 miles, £8895, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

ZAFIRA, 1.9 CDTi SRI [150] 5dr [Exterior Pack], gj56uad, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, sports seats, traction control, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, 1 year warranty and roadside assistance, insurance group:9, blue, 28402 miles, £9600, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)



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£4,495

04 04 NISSAN MICRA 1.4 SE 3dr



Flame red, 61,000 miles with service history, 1 owner, remote locking, intelligent key system, monitor display, elec/windows, elec/mirrors, pas, abs, full airbags, air con, CD/radio

£3,995

00 W SAAB 93 2.0 SE CONVERTIBLE



Met green, grey leather interior, 47,000 miles with service history, power hood, elec windows, cent locking, pas, abs, air con, alloy wheels, CD multiplayer

£3,995

04 53 FORD KA 1.3 COLLECTION



Panther black, 48,275 miles with service history, two owners, colour coded bumpers & mirrors, cent/locking,elec/windows, power steering, air con, CD/radio

£3,295

04 04 ROVER 45 IMPRESSION 1.6 S3 5dr



Met racing green, 37,845 miles with service history, power steering, elec windows, cent/locking, air con, stereo, alloy wheels, rear spoiler, front fog lamps

£2,995

03 03 FIAT PUNTO 1.2 ACTIVE 5dr



Met blue, grey cloth interior, elec windows, cent/locking, pas, abs, airbags, colour coded bumpers

£2,595

03 03 SUZUKI ALTO 1.1 5dr



Black, 58,870 miles with service history, two owners, cent/locking, elec/windows, power steering, CD/radio, low tax and insurance, ROAD TAX ONLY £35.00 PER YEAR

£2,595

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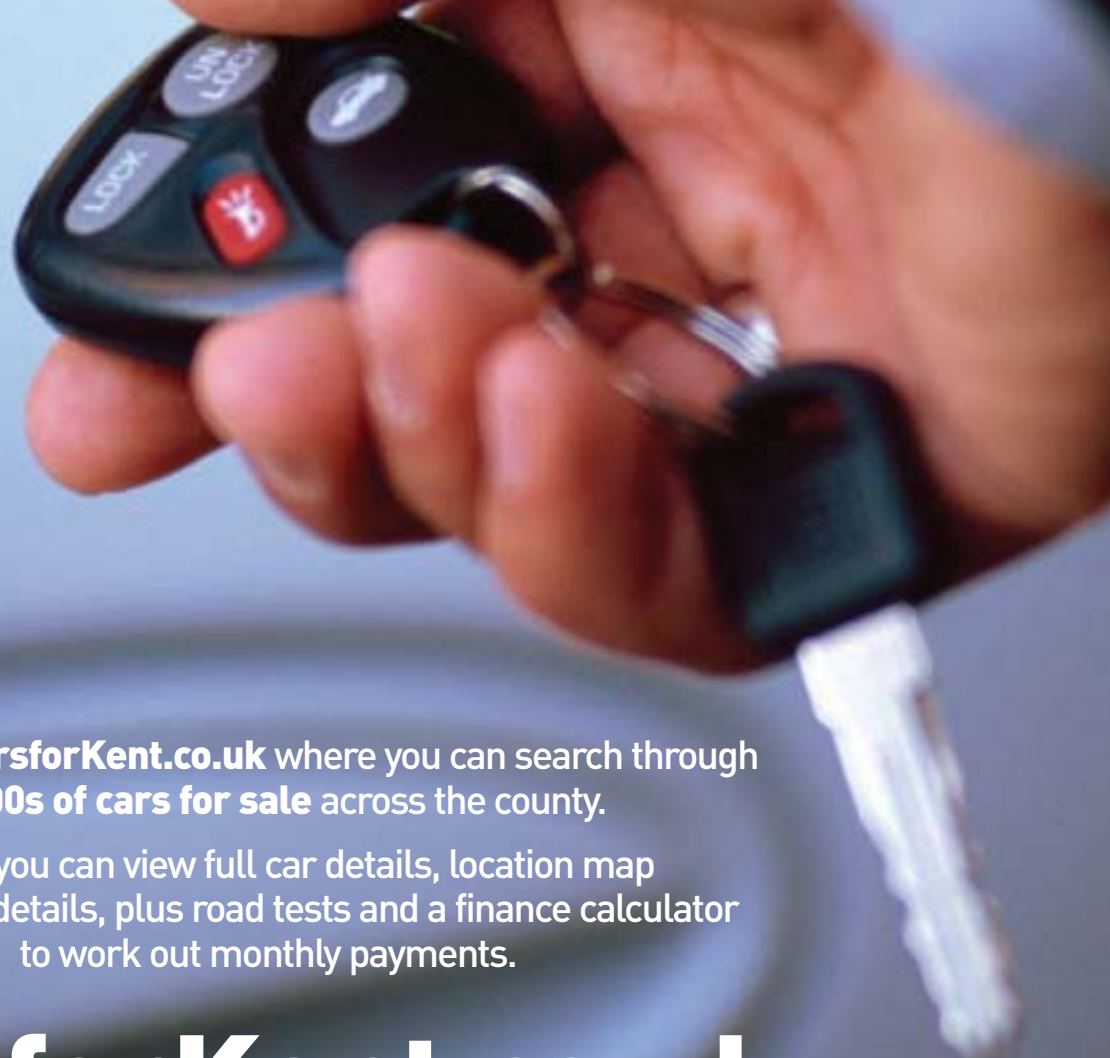
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- TRANSPORT, LOGISTICS, AVIATION

Senior & General Appointments 56-59

WALMER SCIENCE COLLEGE
Salisbury Road, Walmer, Deal, Kent, CT14 7QJ
Telephone : 01304 375212 Fax : 01304 380766
e-mail : admin@walmersciencecollege.co.uk
Headteacher : S.Heaton BSc (Hons) NPOH.

MIXED 11-18 HIGH SCHOOL 800 ON ROLL REQUIRED FOR 1st SEPTEMBER 2009

TEACHER OF ART (0.4 FTE)

The post would be suitable for either NQTs or more experienced teachers. A comprehensive induction programme will be offered whatever your status. The successful applicant will:-

- be a creative teacher with the ability to motivate students of all abilities;
- be enthusiastic and energetic;
- have a commitment to raising standards;
- have a commitment to providing a first class learning experience for all our students.

Walmer Science College is a good school with outstanding features (Ofsted 2007).

Walmer Science College is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and the successful applicant will be required to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure via the CRB. For an application form and further details, please contact Mrs Windsor at the school.
Closing date: 8th May 2009

We value diversity in our workforce

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Kent County Council

Domestic Abuse Family Intervention Worker
Salary £18,343p.a. (£30,730 pro rata)

The Rising Sun Domestic Violence Project wishes to appoint a Domestic Abuse Family Intervention Worker. Three days a week for a 1 year pilot project funded by the Primary Care Trust (PCT). The successful applicant will work intensively with complex families where Domestic Abuse is the primary presenting issue. Interest in assessment and attachment based work an advantage. Professional qualification required and experience of working with children and families. Own car is essential as the post involves travel within the Canterbury district. Interested applicants can phone for an informal chat. Only women need apply - Exempt under Sex Discrimination Act 1975, 7(2)(E)

An enhanced CRB check is required for this post. Applications to be returned by Friday May 15th. Interviews will be held on Friday May 22nd. For an application pack please email: emma@rsvdp.co.uk or telephone Emma on 01227 452852

SUPPORT WORKERS & COMMUNITY CARERS REQUIRED

Ashford • Folkestone • Hythe • Romney Marsh
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Excellent benefits package
Opportunities for 'Career Advancement'
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Learning Disability, Children and Older people

Own transport preferable but not essential.
If you are looking for a rewarding and challenging job, please call us on **0845 270 2881** or email info@communitynursingcareagency.co.uk

Foster carers wanted

The Caldecott Foundation, which cares for vulnerable children who have experienced extreme trauma and disruption, seeks dedicated and highly motivated foster carers. Comprehensive training and support given, plus excellent rates of pay.
Contact Jamie Bromfield or Erica Eversfield on 01303 815648 or email fostering@caldecottfoundation.co.uk

The Caldecott Foundation, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SP.

Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist

Applications invited for a

to work across three academies starting September 2009 [with the opportunity of an earlier start date]

£35,000 - £44,000 pa
37.5 hours per week

Candidates who would like to apply should have sufficient experience in:

- working in a secondary educational placement
- have knowledge of KS3/4 Curriculum
- experience managing ASD and SLI caseload within mainstream setting
- experience of multi-agency work
- ability to provide in house training for TA's and Teaching staff

Applicants must have valid RCLST and HPC registration

Please send a copy of your C.V. to the school or email jennifersponner@marloweacademy.co.uk
Enquiries or visits to the Academy are welcome.

Please contact Jennifer Sponner on direct telephone no: 01843 598550 or email to address above.

Closing date for applications: 15th May 2009

WANTED
EXPERIENCED WAITSTAFF AND CHEFS
For the best restaurant in Thanet.

Hard working, dedicated, experienced applicants only need apply.
Please contact: Harriet on 01843 851515
Or email: harrietteleigh@gmail.com

THE KING'S SCHOOL CANTERBURY

Part-time Gardener

Required to work 20 hours per week at our Junior School in Sturry, Canterbury

There is a possibility that this post could become full-time in the future.

The King's School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

For an application form, please email the School's Personnel Department on recruitment@kings-bursary.co.uk or telephone on 01227 595655 (24 hour answerphone)

Closing date for receipt of completed application forms: 7th May 2009

REQUIRED FOR CARE HOME

2 Part time cleaners - 16 hours per week
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EDUCATION SENSE

The Folkestone academy

Required for September 2009

KS2 SPECIALIST TEACHER

Full or Part-time (MPS)

The Academy is embarking on an exciting new journey as we move towards becoming an all-age Academy for ages 4 - 19. For September we are seeking a KS2 teacher to join our successful Foundation Curriculum team. Recently praised by Ofsted, the foundation team work with small classes of 16 students in years 7, 8 & 9 for 50% of the students' timetable in a classroom base equipped using the KS2 model. Foundation teachers deliver English, maths and humanities subjects to one class with the primary aim of raising the ability of students who join us with standards below level 4.

This is an exciting opportunity for a KS2 trained teacher to join our dedicated team of professionals who are committed to caring for and guiding young people and helping them to work towards meeting national levels of expectation in their achievement.

Full details and an application form are available on our website www.folkestoneacademy.com
Alternatively, telephone Sally Taylor on 01303 842400

Closing date: Thursday 14 May 2009 at 5pm
Interviews: Monday 18 May

The Folkestone Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

The Folkestone Academy, Academy Lane, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5FP • Tel: 01303 842400
Email: admin@folkestoneacademy.com

HARBOUR SPECIAL SCHOOL
Elms Vale Road, Dover CT17 9PS
Tel: 01304 201964
E-Mail: admin@harbour.kent.sch.uk

Teaching Assistants

Kent Scheme, Band 3, Points 7-11 + SEN Allowance
£14,099 - £15,984 (pro-rata) 30 hours per week, term time only
Start: ASAP

Harbour Special School has a mixed roll of 96 students between the ages of 5 and 16. The school is a day special school for children with a combination of behaviour and learning needs. The completion of a 2-year building project in 2007 has seen the school accommodation extended and modernised with excellent new facilities now available.

The Governors are seeking to appoint two Teaching Assistants to join our dedicated and highly effective staff team who are bright, full of ideas and enjoy using their own initiative.

The successful candidates will work within the secondary phase supporting pupils with a range of behaviour and learning needs. Experience of working in a school environment with special needs pupils in particular, would be an advantage but is not essential as full training will be provided.

Ofsted (2006) describes the school as "outstanding in all areas", the school has an excellent reputation locally and it provides a challenging, productive and happy learning environment. The school has also gained the "Investors in People" standard and therefore places a high priority on professional and career development.

For more information and an application pack, please contact the school office.
Closing Date: Monday 11 May 2009
Interview Date: Thursday 14 May 2009
The school requires a completed application form - no CV's accepted

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

WALMER SCIENCE COLLEGE
Salisbury Road, Walmer, Deal, Kent, CT14 7QJ
Telephone : 01304 375212 Fax : 01304 380766
e-mail : admin@walmersciencecollege.co.uk
Headteacher : Simon Heaton BSc (Hons) NPOH.

MIXED 11-18 HIGH SCHOOL 789 ON ROLL REQUIRED FOR 1st SEPTEMBER 2009

TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS

This could either be a full-time post or 0.6 FTE (MPS - R&R ALLOWANCE FOR SUITABLE CANDIDATE)
POSSIBILITY OF 2 UC FOR SUITABLE CANDIDATE

The post would be suitable for either NQTs or more experienced teachers. A comprehensive induction programme will be offered whatever your status.

The successful applicant will:-

- be a creative teacher with the ability to motivate students of all abilities;
- be enthusiastic and energetic;
- have a commitment to raising standards;
- have a commitment to providing a first class learning experience for all our students.

Walmer Science College is a good school with outstanding features (Ofsted 2007)

Walmer Science College is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and the successful applicant will be required to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure via the CRB. For an application form and further details, please contact Mrs Windsor at the school.
Closing date : 19th May 2009

We value diversity in our workforce

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Kent County Council

SANDWICH TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL
SANDWICH, KENT
Technology, Vocational and Training School Status
Headteacher: Richard Wallis
Current Roll: 1300
"Sandwich Technology School is an outstanding school" – Ofsted December 2008

TEACHER OF ENGLISH
To cover a maternity period
Required from September 2009, a suitably qualified, experienced and enthusiastic person to make a significant contribution in our successful English Department. Applications are welcome from NQTs. Teacher of Science and Teacher of ICT KS4 & 5 also required for September 2009.

An information pack and application form are available from the school:
Sandwich Technology School, Deal Road, Sandwich, Kent CT13 0FA
Tel: 01304 610013 Fax: 01304 610100
www.sandwich-tech.kent.sch.uk
e-mail: stella.leitner@sandwich-tech.kent.sch.uk
Closing Date: Friday, 8 May 2009
The school is committed to safeguarding children and the post is subject to an enhanced disclosure check.

The Folkestone Academy

Required for September 2009

TEACHER OF ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS
MPS
A specialist teacher of Additional Educational Needs is required to join our successful team, working with students with specific learning difficulties and ASD across the Key Stages both individually and in small groups. This is an exciting time to join the department as we move towards becoming an All Age Academy. A commitment to the ethos of inclusion is essential. You will have the ability to establish strong working relationships with young people and colleagues and will bring enthusiasm and new ideas to the classroom to make learning fun and engaging.

Full details and an application form are available on our website www.folkestoneacademy.com Alternatively, telephone Sally Taylor on 01303 842400

Closing date: Monday 18 May at 5pm
Interviews: Friday 22 May

The Folkestone Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

The Folkestone Academy, Academy Lane, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5FP • Tel: 01303 842400
Email: admin@folkestoneacademy.com

The Folkestone Academy

Required for September 2009

TEACHER OF ENGLISH (KS4 Coordinator)
TLR 2B (currently £3,940)
An enthusiastic and dynamic qualified teacher of English is required to join our thriving and successful team. The Folkestone Academy is about to embark on an exciting journey towards becoming Kent's first All Age Academy with students from age 4 – 19.

We are seeking an ambitious teacher with the energy and drive to support the leadership of the English team taking responsibility for Key Stage 4. This is an ideal opportunity for a well qualified teacher to gain experience for future faculty leadership.

Full details and an application form are available on our website www.folkestoneacademy.com Alternatively, telephone Sally Taylor on 01303 842400

Closing date: Monday 18 May at 5pm
Interviews: Friday 22 May

The Folkestone Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

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CONTACT ISAURA ON
01227-752211

CHILDCARE INSTRUCTOR/LECTURER REQUIRED

Hours: 8.30am – 3.30pm, Term-time only
Salary: Dependent on experience

Instructor for a new childcare course is required for June 2009. This is an exciting opportunity to lead and develop this new initiative which will have its first student intake in September 2009.

The successful candidate will be an individual who has experience of teaching within this sector and who has a vision as to how Pent Valley Technology College can provide real life applied learning experiences for its students in the childcare industry.

Good interpersonal skills are extremely important. This position is suitable for an energetic person who enjoys being with teenagers and can cope with a busy learning environment.

For more information and an application form please contact:
Miss S Spratley, Pent Valley Technology College, Surrenden Road, Folkestone, Kent. CT19 4ED.
Email: samantha.spratley@pent-valley.kent.sch.uk
Tel: 01303 277161 ext 2218 Fax: 01303 279342

Closing Date: 12th May 2009
Interviews: Week commencing 18th May 2009

 Achievement for all

Rainham School for Girls
(A Specialist Technology College & Training School)
Derwent Way, Rainham, GILLINGHAM Kent ME8 0BX
(NOR 1570) Head Teacher: Mrs J Dunn

2 i/c Science Faculty - TLR 2a (currently £5,920)

We are seeking to appoint a well qualified and experienced teacher with good interpersonal, leadership and management skills to join the school in September 2009 as Second in Charge of the Science Faculty. The successful candidate will have high expectations of student achievement and proven excellence in classroom practice. Experience of teaching at KS5 is desirable to support expansion in this key stage.

Rainham School for Girls is a popular and successful non-selective school offering excellent opportunities for enthusiastic and ambitious applicants to contribute to its continuing development.

Any offer of employment for this post will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure.

This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Application forms and further details are available from Mrs D Francis, Personnel Officer at the School.
Tel. 01634 362746, Fax: 01634 388334. Email: dfrancis@rsg.org.uk

Closing date: Monday, 11th May 2009

WEST HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL
DARTFORD ROAD, DARTFORD, KENT DA1 3DZ
TEL: 01322 226019 FAX: 01322 220121
E-mail: office@west-hill.kent.sch.uk
Age range: 5-11 N.O.R. 490
Headteacher: Mrs Pauline Hindle

Do you wish to join a lively talented and friendly staff?

Post 1
REQUIRED FOR SEPTEMBER 2009 A KS1 OR LOWER KS2 TEACHER

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic teacher to work in KS1 or Year 3 or Year 4. This position would be suitable for experienced teachers and NQT's. Applicants are asked to identify curriculum areas in which they can offer expertise. The school has a commitment to the professional development of staff.

Post 2
TEMPORARY POSITION REQUIRED FROM SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2009 A 0.4 FTE UPPER KS2 TEACHER (WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF THIS BEING EXTENDED)

A teacher to release the deputy head for 2 days each week. The successful applicant must be committed to high expectations, have a thorough knowledge of the National Curriculum and the Year 6 curriculum. Applicants must be committed to fully contribute to the life of the school.

West Hill is a successful and popular school with well behaved and motivated children. At the heart of the school's philosophy is the development of the whole child.

If you would like to learn more about the school please send for an information pack. Visits to the school are warmly welcomed.
Completed application forms should be forwarded to the headteacher by 8th May 2009.

VACANCY FOR A
DEPUTY MANAGER
IN A CARE HOME REGISTERED FOR 29 YOUNG ADULTS WITH AUTISM / ASPERGERS SYNDROME


- NVQ 4 in Care Qualified preferred, however other relevant Qualifications considered, funding available for NVQ 4
- Two years experience in a managerial position working with young adults with autism spectrum conditions
- Driver essential


Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm plus on call
Salary dependent on qualifications & experience £18,000 - £20,000 p.a.

Closing date for application 22 May 2009

For an application form & job description please phone 01797 363550
The Springs Community, St. Mary's Bay, Kent

Bredlands Lane, Sturry, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT2 0HD
T: 01227 710392 | W: www.spireacademy.com
Twin Specialisms: Business & Enterprise and Visual, Creative & Performing Arts





Teaching Vacancies for July/September 2009:

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If you are ambitious to 'get on' in the profession then there is no better place to start than at Spire Academy, where you will have the opportunity to work with experienced and committed teams of practitioners.

Spire Academy opened in September 2007 and achieved excellent results at KS4 in its first year with GCSE results in English and Maths rising from 18% to 32%.

In appointing teaching colleagues, we look for candidates who enjoy working with young people and forge positive relationships with them. An enthusiasm for new approaches and ideas is also important.

Further details of all posts and application forms are available on our website www.spireacademy.com or alternatively, contact Marion Wigington at m.wigington@spireacademy.com

Closing date: 15th May 2009.

Spire Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

Fuji Seal Europe Ltd.

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Maintenance of the computer network in the UK including PC's, Macs, printers and control of all IT consumables. Responsibilities to include proper security for the network, including virus protection, maintaining software applications and keeping an up to date inventory of IT hardware and software licences including regular PC audits to ensure full compliance with FAST membership. Full involvement in new software implementations is required including testing and training of end users. Responsibility also for the phone system and European intranet. Some database development and occasional support of the European operation.

Dreamweaver experience an advantage.

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We are seeking a methodical, extremely accurate and detail orientated person to join our costing team.

Computer literate, with an enthusiasm and flair for data analysis, the jobholder will be responsible for preparing prices following requests from the sales department. You will also be responsible for checking quotations and invoices. The job holder will need to be flexible and able to adapt urgently at short notice, whilst maintaining the discipline necessary to keep on track with all the other requirements of the job.

The jobholder will have excellent verbal and numerical skills and be able to work to tight deadlines. Teamwork is essential and the ability to develop good working relationships both within the company and with external contacts is a must. Manufacturing background an advantage.

You'll enjoy a full range of employee benefits.

To apply please send your CV to HR Department, Fuji Seal Europe Ltd, Scimitar Close, Gillingham Business Park, Gillingham, Kent ME8 0RJ or alternatively you can email to jobs@uk.fujiseal.com.

Previous applicants need not apply.

Closing date: 11 May 2009

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Career Opportunities



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Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M Campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

Section Manager Construction Craft

37 hrs per week, salary starting at £33,858 per annum

08/12

Lecturer Animal Care and Horse Studies

37 hrs per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum

02/59

Supply Lecturer Counselling

Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum

S/COU

Supply Lecturer Higher Education - Fine Art

Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum

S/HE/FA

Trainer Demonstrator Fabrication and Welding

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,963 per annum

TD3

For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.

Staff benefits include:

- Pension & Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall & Gym
- Proximity to main bus & train stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
- Staff Discount Scheme

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 11th May 2009 at 12 noon



CLICK

www.canterburycollege.ac.uk/job-vacancies



CALL

01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone)



OPEN DAYS – FRIDAY 8TH /15TH & 22ND MAY 12pm to 5pm
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Either attend the open afternoons or apply now - email: nikki.pipe@regentgroup.co.uk or Tel: 01322 626249



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Maidstone Road, Rochester, Kent ME1 3EL

Tel: 01634 844008

email: office@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

A Voluntary Controlled School specialising in Mathematics, Computing and Humanities

An 11-18 Boys' Grammar School of 1180 students including

300 in the co-educational Sixth Form

'OUTSTANDING' Ofsted November 2008 –

"a buzz of excitement pervades the school"

Teacher of Spanish and French

An enthusiastic teacher is required to cover maternity leave from 1st September 2009. The Modern Languages department enjoys a newly equipped language laboratory and run trips to Spain and France on an annual basis. The school is twinned with Lycee St Marc near Bourgoins, and has e-mail links with schools in Spain.

The successful candidate will be an effective classroom practitioner and be committed to enabling all students to achieve their full potential

OFSTED 2008 commented that students have a "willingness to participate in the wide range of opportunities available to them, to show initiative and to assume responsibility". Behaviour was found to be "exemplary".

If you are interested in applying for this post, then please contact the Headteacher's PA, Mrs Jacqueline Harrison, or visit our website www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

We are committed to the safeguarding and wellbeing of children and any offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check
Closing date for applications – 20th May 2009



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If it's time for you to enjoy the rewards you deserve please write enclosing your CV, quoting reference SVS294/KOS, to Alice Forsyth, HR Officer, Saga Group Limited, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE or e-mail: human.resources@saga.co.uk
Alternatively, please call 01303 774888 for an application form or download one from our website.

Closing date: 15 May 2009.

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SALES & CUSTOMER SERVICE AGENTS

OPEN DAYS

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At Cheriton Parc House, High Street, Cheriton, Folkestone CT18 8AN

There's a brand new name in Folkestone. Direct Choice. And that means terrific career opportunities for people who believe that the customer comes first every time.

Who's Direct Choice? We're the growing business that delivers great value insurance products over the phone and online. For our team, success is all about delighting our customers. Listening to them, understanding what they need and providing a brilliant service.

If that sounds like your kind of company, then come along to one of our **open days**. Find out how you could help us build the future of our new contact centre at the former Eurotunnel offices just off the M20 in Cheriton, 20 minutes from Ashford.

For both roles, there will be full training, not to mention ongoing support every step of the way. So while contact centre experience would be ideal, it's certainly not essential if you've excellent communication skills and a helpful personality. As part of the Acromas family – that also includes Saga and The AA – we can also offer outstanding opportunities for career progression and a first-rate benefits package.

If you can't make either of the open days, we'd still like to hear from you. You can apply for either of the positions by calling 01303 774888 for an application form. Alternatively, email your CV to recruitment@directchoice.co.uk or post to Kerry Harrison, HR Officer, Direct Choice, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE. Please quote reference: DC295/KOS.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

US firm picks Kent for its first office abroad

A US-based company which helps businesses prepare bid-winning graphics proposals for Government and defence contracts has chosen Kent for its first UK office.

The 24 Hour Company, helped by Locate in Kent, the investment promotion agency for Kent and Medway, has chosen an office unit at Medway Innovation Centre in Rochester.

It will mean new jobs in the area over the next few years.

Director Colleen Jolly said: "We are really thrilled to be opening our first office outside America. We felt that Kent was the ideal business location due to its transport links to London and Europe."

Paul Wookey, chief executive at Locate in Kent, said: "There is a good level of interest in Kent from US companies. Since 2007, we have helped eight American-based businesses make nearly £15m worth of investment in the county."

Women's networking groups on the increase

BUSINESSWOMEN have been flocking to some new networking groups which have sprung up in west Kent over the last few years – and now they're aiming to spread across the rest of the county.

Called 12.30 groups – because that's the time they were originally held – they've become so successful that the first franchise model for them is being piloted.

The pilot franchise is being run by hypnotherapist Mandy Shepherd and Karen Wilkinson, who runs a cleaning firm. They already run groups in Kings Hill and Southborough, and they are opening one in Maidstone on May 20.

Other groups in Dartford, Beckenham, Sevenoaks and Bromley are run by managers.

The idea was launched by Bromley businesswomen Jackie Groundsell and Penny Denby. Details on www.1230.co.uk

Disappointment with Darling as he fails to go for mediator idea

■ BY TONY PATEY

BOSSES of one of the UK's leading business organisations are fuming that Chancellor Alistair Darling didn't take up an idea which they said would help most of the firms in Kent.

More than nine out of 10 county businesses are small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) – and the area branch of the Federation of Small Businesses has been campaigning for a 'corporate mediator' to help build relations between banks and SMEs.

The FSB, which has 7,000 members in the county, has been saying for some time that the key problems facing SMEs are cash flow worries caused mainly by firms being paid later than usual – and lack of credit when needed from banks.

Debasish Sen, vice-chairman of FSB Kent and Medway, said: "I'm very disappointed that the Chancellor has not even considered the idea of a mediator. A recent poll by the FSB revealed that over 70 per cent of small businesses wish to see a corporate mediator."

"This clearly reflects the frustration that many small businesses are having when trying to talk to their bank. The element of decision making at the bank at local level seems to have gone forever."

"A corporate mediator to resolve these problems would represent both sides in disputes and discussions and de-politicise the whole issue of bank lending. I believe this would re-establish trust between banks and businesses during the recession and guide the economy into recovery."

Chairman Roger House said: "It is high time the Government took some serious action and built bridges between the banks and the small businesses which keep our economy moving."

"The Government has run high-profile PR events aimed at communities suggesting they are coming out to 'meet and listen' where transparently this degenerates into a complete lack of innovative decision-making."

"If we are to come out of this economic crisis we need leadership and new thinking; business it seems could deliver both better than Government."

"The future health of our economy depends on mending the relationship between small business and the banks; small firms and entrepreneurs need confidence to take the risks to innovate, grow and create jobs and take us out of the recession."

"In order to do this, they need to regain their faith in the banking system."

"Small businesses have identified a corporate mediator, one which works similarly to those in France and Belgium, as key to this revival."

They said that an independent go-between, brokering agreement on decisions which are at a stalemate, including bank lending to small firms, should have been included in the Budget – but there wasn't even a mention of it.

Relationships between banks and SMEs have been deteriorating. The FSB's research shows that around a third of small businesses consider their bank to be less helpful than before the downturn.



NO GO-BETWEEN: Alistair Darling ignored company bosses' calls for a mediator for banks and businesses

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Picture ADY KERRY



FINGERS CROSSED: Bowling coach Geoff Arnold is hoping for full-time contract at Kent

Bowling coach wants full-time job

EXPERIENCED bowling coach Geoff Arnold hopes he has done enough with Kent's attack to be given a contract to work with the county's pace bowlers for the whole summer.

The former England fast bowler was released as Surrey's bowling coach at the end of last season and joined Kent as a bowling consultant in pre-season.

The 64-year-old's future at the club will be decided when director of cricket Graham Ford joins up

CRICKET

with the Kent squad and Arnold hopes he will be given a chance to continue in the role.

He said: "I have said that I want to coach for as long as possible. Although I am pushing the retirement age I don't want to retire because I feel I have still got a lot to offer the game.

"I am fit enough to do catching and fielding in practice so it's

wait and see what Kent want to do really."

Kent's problems with extras last season, particularly no-balls, is something Arnold has been working on trying to eradicate during pre-season.

He said: "It is something we have been looking at, but I always believe it's a self-discipline thing, you have got to hit a mark but some bowlers don't do that and then wonder why they get hit for runs."

Key's form pays off with England recall

KENT captain Robert Key has been included in England's squad for the World Twenty20 that begins in this country on June 1.

The Kent skipper, who captained the England Lions against West Indies last week, will line up alongside players such as Andrew Flintoff and Kevin Pietersen in England's 15-man squad, led by new captain Paul Collingwood.

Kent chairman George Kennedy said the club will now have to look at bringing in a new opening batsman to replace Key while he is away with England.

Key's team-mate, Joe Denly, did not make the provisional 30-man squad.

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Gills boss Mark Stimson discusses the club's biggest games of the season

End in sight at last to Ford visa delay

AFTER more than a month exiled in South Africa, director of cricket, Graham Ford is finally expected to join up with the Kent squad this week.

The South African was due to meet up with the team for the beginning of pre-season at the end of March, but new visa regulations have delayed his arrival at St Lawrence.

Kent's chairman, George Kennedy, is confident Ford will arrive this week.

He said: "Graham has now completed his tests and results are due any time. I really do believe he will be with us in the next few days."

PLEASE SEND YOUR SPORTS STORIES TO SPORTS EDITOR GLENN PEARSON AT glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk



Picture ADY KERRY

KOLPAK RETURN? Wayne Parnell says he is interested in a return to Kent after playing for South Africa in the World Twenty20 tournament in England during June

Parnell leaves door open for St Lawrence return

CRICKET

■ BY GLENN PEARSON

KENT'S new overseas fast bowler Wayne Parnell could return to the county after playing in the World Twenty20 with South Africa – but as a Kolpak player.

The South African international is expected to be named in the Proteas' side for the Twenty20 competition in England that begins on June 1, with his six-week contract at St Lawrence due to end on May 21.

The World Twenty20 ends with the show-piece final at Lord's on June 21 which, if agreed, would leave Parnell with a window to rejoin the county for the final three months of the season.

The 19-year-old left-arm fast bowler, who took 4-79 and scored a brisk 69 in Kent's first innings in the County Championship against Essex, told this newspaper he would be happy to return to St Lawrence later in the summer.

"I am supposed to leave on May 21 as I'm hoping to make the South Africa World T20 squad later on so it will give me a few days before that

starts," he said. "After that I will reassess where I am. If I do well there is a possibility I will return, but we will have to see. It's a good set-up at Kent with a good bunch of guys with a good mixture of young and experienced players so hopefully I can do well."

Kent's chairman, George Kennedy, said that signing Parnell after the World Twenty20 is over was something the county are looking into.

Although, Rob Key's inclusion in the England's squad for the competition means Kent may have to find an overseas opening batsman to fill in, but Kennedy hopes Parnell could return, potentially as a Kolpak player.

"It's certainly in the pipeline," he said. "The only problem is if we bring in another overseas player once he has gone and we are looking into that for more than one reason. If he did come

back it could be as a Kolpak player, but these things are becoming more complex. On the evidence of one game though, he is the kind of player we want at the club."

Having been watched by Kent's exiled director of cricket, Graham Ford, Parnell was approached by the county with a proposition to join for an initial six-week stint.

The young quick bowler, who made his One-Day International debut in Australia in January, jumped at the chance to play county cricket as a way of preparing for this summer's Twenty20 tournament.

He said: "During the third One-Day International against Australia in South Africa, the club contacted my agent.

"He phoned me after the game to tell me Kent were interested because Stuart Clark had been re-called by the Aussies. With the World T20 being in England it will hopefully give me experience of bowling on these types of wickets.

"I have got to get used to English conditions and the English ball."

Strokes thrash Tavern to edge closer to the double

SUNDAY LEAGUE

BY YOURTHANET REPORTER

STROKES topped off their excellent season with a 9-1 thrashing of The Vale Tavern in the final of the Division 2 Cup at the weekend.

The Division 2 leaders can follow it up with the league title and with it promotion to Division 1, if they beat second-placed Hotel De Ville this weekend.

Hotel gave themselves a chance of catching the leaders with a 5-1 thrashing of Mulberry Tree on Sunday.

Brace

John Jackman hit a brace for the chasers with Carlton Loo, Matthew Tye and Sean Overbury also on target. Andy Wicks netted a consolation goal for Mulberry Tree.

The result moves them to within four points of the leaders with two games to go.

In the Premier Division, third-placed South Eastern slipped up after losing 6-4 against mid-table Albys United at Westgate.

Stephen Halliday was the star of the show for Albys, netting a hat-trick, with Jamie Lees, Martin Rattigan and Zack

Thomas also on the scoresheet. Former Ramsgate striker Scott Holden hit a hat-trick for South Eastern, but neither his or Graham Birkett's goals were enough to prevent their side losing.

In Division 3, champions Stonecroft won their 16th game of the season, again in convincing fashion.

Chris Wain, Dave Radley, Kevin Ring and Tom Radley all scored for Stonecroft, who beat Ash 4-1, with Matt McKay netting for Ash.

In Division 4 there were goals aplenty, especially at Garlinge where The Orb produced the performance of the season in thrashing Jesters 12-1.

Chris Burke, Damien Greene and Lee O'Neill all scored twice, interspersed by John Hodder's hat-trick and strikes from Cole Metcalf, Connor Ward and Wayne Masters. Gary Kinch was the lone scorer for Jesters who will finish the season fourth from bottom.

Second-placed Camden hit Flowing Bowl for seven at Jackey Bakers. James Bartlett led the way with a hat-trick, aided by Adrian Cunningham, Ben Chapman, Tom Morgan and Trevor Boorman who all scored in a 7-1 rout. Chaz White netted for Flowing Bowl.

This Sunday's cup final is Cramptons FC v Saunders FC in the Division 1 Cup. Kick-off is at 3pm at St Lukes Football Ground, Ramsgate.

Entrance is £1, with children free if accompanied by an adult.



GOAL FEST: South Eastern lost a 10-goal thriller against Albys United

CRICKET



FRIENDLY: Broadstairs (batting) beat Sandwich ahead of the new cricket season

Openers ensure Broadstairs move in to season on a high

A CENTURY by Gary Burgess was not enough to prevent Sandwich Town narrowly losing to Broadstairs in the final warm-up game to the cricket season.

The opener provided the backbone to Sandwich's reply on Saturday, but a lack of support from his team mates saw the visitors all out in the final over 15 runs short of victory.

Broadstairs' top order took advantage of winning the toss with a series of decent partnerships. Opening pair David Cooper (41) and Terry Bond (30) got them off to a steady start before both were dismissed by Matthew van Poppel, who was the pick of the Sandwich attack with 2-22 from his nine overs.

Michael Ross looked in good touch at number three as he hit an unbeaten 67 to take the score past 200. He piled on the runs with Scott Narraway until the latter was run out seven runs short of his half century by Craig Spanton.

Spanton claimed the wicket of Linton Denning (seven) late on as Broadstairs finished their 45 overs on 222-4.

Sandwich's reply got off to a shaky start with Stuart Smith, Robert Goatham, Rhys Jones and John Ewart all returning to the pavilion for single figures. Burgess finally found a partner in James Bolt, building a decent partnership until the number six was run out on 39.

Burgess was finally out for 101, one of Ashley Ellison's three wickets, as the visitors slumped to 208 all out.

Both sides will be looking for an improvement on last season when the season gets underway this Saturday. Sandwich begin their campaign away to Lordwood, who were relegated from the top flight alongside them last season.

Broadstairs, who also finished bottom of their respective table in 2008, begin life in Division Two at home to Bromley Common, who narrowly avoided the drop last season.



BEATEN: Hartsdown Park witnessed a Margate select XI struggle to cope with a Dragons celebrity side

Celebrity Dragons too hot for Gate XI

A MARGATE select XI were comfortably beaten 6-1 by celebrity side Dragons Allstars in an exhibition game at Hartsdown Park on Saturday.

The Margate side featured former players in the shape of Mark Munday and Lee Shearer. With an average age of around 40, the Margate side struggled against the Dragons, who featured stars from Sky TV's Dream Team and Margate assistant manager Neville Southall.

Dean Bradshaw put the Dragons ahead on five minutes with the only goal of the half.

In the second half, Dragons controlled the game and Jeff Brazier's brace in the opening four minutes strengthened the lead. Bradshaw increased the lead on the hour.

Margate pulled a goal back with 11 minutes remaining through Steve Winch, but Dragons went on to score twice in the final ten minutes to wrap up the victory.

Former Blues players Munday enjoyed his return to Hartsdown Park despite the defeat.

He told the club website: "They were a good side, they knocked it about well. It was nice to get back on the pitch again, but I'm just glad to see Margate playing football back at Hartsdown Park really."

Rush puts on a Royal show at Sandwich Bay Festival

GOLF

THE sun shone on Royal Cinque Ports last week as Edward Rush put together a superb round to win the Sandwich Bay Festival.

The 29-year-old professional from East Sussex National took advantage of perfect scoring conditions to shoot a bogey-free six-under-par 65 in the third and final round to win the tournament by two shots.

Rush went into the final day joint leader after the first two rounds at Prince's Golf Club. After a one-over-par 73 in bad weather he recovered on day two with a round of 69 which took him to the top of the leader board.

No one was more surprised with the victory than the winner, who did not enjoy ideal preparations for the event.

He said: "I injured my knee about six weeks ago and I'm just getting back into playing properly again. I just wanted to enjoy this tournament. It was a beautiful final day and ideal scoring conditions so I was a little surprised no one beat me but it's a nice end to a very enjoyable tournament."

Prince's professional Robert McGuirk, who went into the closing round level with Rush, finished second after carding a round of 67.

Ant Tarchetti, the 2007 south region Order of Merit champion from Littlestone Golf Club near Folkestone, finished sixth on two over. His chances of victory were scuppered by an opening round 76 which put paid to his chances of catching the leaders.

The next main tournament at Prince's is an event on the EuroPro Tour, which begins on June 9.



BAD START: Ant Tarchetti's hopes of victory were ruined by a poor first round

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